

Rebuilding Agricultural Markets Program (RAMP) Afghanistan

Quarterly Progress Report For October 1 – December 31, 2005



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ACRONYMS	
ADB	Asian Development Bank
AED	Agriculture Extension Department
AFC	Afghanistan Finance Corporation
AGE	Anti-Government Elements
AIB	Afghanistan International Bank
AIP	Alternative Income Project
The Fund	Afghanistan Renewal Fund
Chemonics	Chemonics International Inc.
COP	Chief of Party
CTO	Cognizant Technical Officer
CO	Contracting Officer
DCOP	Deputy Chief of Party
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GIS	Geographic Information System
GOA	Government of Afghanistan
GPS	Global Positioning System
Ha	Hectare
IED	Improvised Explosive Device
IP	Implementing Partner
IR	Intermediate Result
IRA	Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
JO	Job Order
Km	Kilometer
Kg	Kilogram
LOP	Life of Project
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MAAHF	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food
MEIS	Monitoring and Evaluation Information System
MISFA	Microfinance Investment Support Facility Afghanistan
MIWRE	Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources
MOC	Ministry of Commerce
MOF	Ministry of Finance
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MRRD	Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
MT	Metric Ton
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
PASA	Participatory Agency Service Agreement
PMP	Performance Management Plan
PPSD	United Nations Partnerships for Private Sector Development
PRA	Participatory Rural Assessment
PRT	Provincial Reconstruction Team
RAMP	Rebuilding Agricultural Markets Program
SME	Small and Medium Enterprises
SO	Strategic Objective
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
VBSE	Village-Based Seed Enterprise
VFU	Veterinary Field Unit
WOCCU	World Council of Credit Unions

Executive Summary

The strategic objective of the Rebuilding Agricultural Markets Program (RAMP) is to enhance the food security and increase the incomes of Afghanistan's rural population. Specifically, the project will increase the marketable value of agricultural products by \$250 million. RAMP and its partners are implementing activities along the value chains of five product groups - (1) fresh and dried fruits, (2) nuts, (3) vegetables, (4) livestock and poultry, and (5) wheat - to increase the marketable value of these commodities. Direct activities which strengthen specific value chain elements include: identifying markets and developing marketing systems, facilitating new opportunities in value-added processing, and increasing on-farm productivity. Activities which directly or indirectly support targeted value chains include facilitating access to finance, improving farm-to-market roads, and improving irrigation systems.

An important development over the last quarter is a growing realization that the combined result of RAMP's activities to date will far exceed the original program target of increasing marketable value of agricultural products by \$250 million. The RAMP Monitoring and Evaluation Unit is conducting detailed impact assessment surveys and is now confident that by the end of RAMP's three-year contract, the program will have increased the marketable value of agriculture products by more than \$1 billion.

Fresh and Dried Fruit

Fresh and dry fruit production has the potential to be very profitable for producers, processors and exporters in Afghanistan. With the assistance of RAMP and its partners, Afghan traders exported 50 mt of fresh grapes to the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, India, Germany and Russia. Traders also exported more than 800 mt of raisins to Ukraine, Russia and Saudi Arabia. Expanding the market for fresh and dry fruit is largely dependent on identifying markets and providing products of quality acceptable by international markets. RAMP and its implementing partners have provided inputs and assistance throughout the value chain that has expanded the market availability and value for fresh and dried fruit. These included conducting RAMP-funded market study to Japan, China, Taiwan, and Korea and identify potential buyers and their understand their quality requirements, upgrading three raisin processing plants, providing cold storage facilities to associations and local businesses, providing funding to a raisin processor as operating capital, and building capacity and skills in production and processing.

Nuts

An Afghan exporter has shipped an initial shipment of 6 mt of almonds to Saudi Arabia with the assistance of RAMP's partner Roots of Peace (RoP). An Afghan delegation to the India International Trade Fair, also led by RoP, identified additional potential buyers. To increase the quality of nuts, RAMP activities have targeted production methods, post harvest processing, and quality control standards. RAMP is supporting three nut processing associations to construct buildings and install modern processing lines. RAMP's infrastructure unit has assisted with construction, as well as farm to market roads to provide easier access between farmers and processing facilities. Flag International and RoP are continuing to work with nut processors in Mazari Sharif (Balkh province) and Kabul, through the Business Development Services (BDS) activities, to increase their business skills and develop business plans.

Vegetables

RAMP activities are producing vegetables for both the fresh local markets and for dried vegetable exports. RAMP partner Development Works Canada (DWC) assisted farmers and processors in Parwan province to produce, process and export 30 mt of dried vegetables to the United Kingdom, with a value of \$110,000. DWC provided improved varieties of seed and fertilizer to local farmers, and contracted them to supply vegetables for the partner's dehydration factory near the province's capital. The facility includes a testing laboratory to ensure products produced are of an acceptable quality. The International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and the Central Asia Development Group (CADG), through their production programs, identified and demonstrated improved production methods for several vegetable types that provide a return of over \$2,000 per hectare. Use of cold storage facilities installed by RAMP allows farmers or traders to store fresh vegetables past the peak production periods, and sell them at a higher price. RAMP's infrastructure unit has constructed irrigation and drainage canals that increase production by providing more reliable water supply. Fresh vegetables also are damaged less during transport as a result of improved farm-to-market roads.

Livestock

The Dutch Committee for Afghanistan's (DCA) livestock activities have increased the market value of livestock as a result of improved health through their Veterinary Field Units (VFU) providing vaccinations, medications, and other veterinary services throughout Afghanistan. RAMP's infrastructure projects have improved roads and constructed bridges that increase the access of VFUs to rural areas. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has also continued to increase the market value and potential of rural poultry production by improving practices and availability of inputs and marketing systems.

Wheat

RAMP and its implementing partners (IP) have been successful in adding to the value chain of wheat in several intervention areas. RAMP-built warehouses improved the quality of stored wheat for several Village Based Seed Enterprises (VBSE). The International Fertilizer Development Company (IFDC) provided loans to VBSEs in Kunduz and other provinces that allowed the farmers to store their wheat until the market price was higher. The RAMP finance program, through the Grain Industry Alliance (GIA), provided working capital for two flour mills in Kunduz and Kabul. RAMP has also assisted VBSEs to develop business plans and by-laws to utilize their assets more fully and improve their seed business. TRAMP Sunn pest and locust control activities has been extremely successful in the past in preventing major losses from these pests. FAO and CADG began planning and conducting field over-wintering surveys during 4th quarter of 2005, in preparation for a major control campaign in the coming spring.

Capacity Building

The agriculture sector in Afghanistan requires a strong Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food (MAAHF) to plan and coordinate the overall growth and development of the sector, and to allocate resources to the areas that need assistance - both within the ministry and to producers, processors and marketing systems. Capacity building is also needed at other levels, directly to farmers, associations, processors, and traders/exporters. RAMP capacity building activities target all of the above levels, and impact positively all five of the value chain commodities.

The RAMP-implemented MAAHF Institutional Capacity Building project contributed four key senior advisors to His Excellency Minister Obaidullah Ramin and the team that completed the MAAHF Master Plan – a document outlining the ministries goals and objectives for Afghanistan over the next five years. RAMP will continue throughout its duration to assist the Minister Ramin in implementing the plan. RAMP has developed more than 50 producer, marketing, processing and storage associations which have already proved beneficial to the farming community, and will continue long after RAMP. RAMP is working closely with the MAAHF communications department in their efforts to inform the government and the public of their activities and progress, and in spreading technical messages that result in improved crop production and up-to-date marketing information.

This document illustrates the progress that RAMP/Chemonics has made over October, November and December of 2005 – managing 53 Job Orders (subcontracts and grants). The first sections highlight the major accomplishments of RAMP's three primary components – Infrastructure, Agriculture Technology and Market Development, and Rural Financial services. This section also includes a security report, outlining the range of situations RAMP has encountered over the past quarter which have affected the program's activities.

Following these management reports is a chart that clearly illustrates by province where RAMP is implementing its activities. The document then provides up-to-date summaries of each Job Order in RAMP's portfolio. It is RAMP's intention that these summaries can easily be distributed by USAID to partners in Afghanistan's government and international donor community who are interested in RAMP's activities nation-wide.

Respectfully Submitted,

Louis Faoro
RAMP/Chemonics
Chief of Party

Management Reports

Infrastructure

RAMP's infrastructure department is implementing 31 active road, bridge, irrigation, drainage and river diversion projects in seven provinces. Five of these projects had progressed, during the quarter, from design to tendering for bids, contract award and the start of construction. Construction was completed at six projects and four of the six were transferred to government authorities and land owners.

Construction activities have included the completion of 51 kilometers of farm-to-market gravel roads during the quarter in three provinces (Ghazni, Kunduz, and Nangarhar) and irrigation and river works progressed for the improvement of irrigation and drainage for more than 150,000 additional hectares of irrigated lands largely in four provinces (Nangarhar, Baghlan, Hirat, and Balkh).

The securing of right-of-way for construction was accomplished in Hirat and Balkh provinces through cooperative efforts of RAMP, the governors, district officials, the religious establishment and land owners. Three important projects were affected by these discussions: The Samar Kandian Weir in Balkh, the river intake works for the Haft Qolb and Injil canals in Hirat, and the Lars Manzel floodway for protection of the Guzara Canal in Hirat.

The recent entry of RAMP into irrigation work in Balkh Province was accompanied by the establishment of a cooperative, coordinated effort with the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The ADB had been conducting planning studies over the previous two years and was stimulated by RAMP to now carry out significant construction activities along the Balkhab River that serves some 400,000 hectares of irrigated land. Because the RAMP program is nearing completion and budgets are nearly fully committed, a cooperative project effort was agreed to construct a cross river weir and a feeder canal and four intakes that serve some 150,000 hectares of land. During the quarter RAMP tendered to pre-qualified contractors for construction of a weir near the village of Samar Kandian, cost approximately, \$4.2 million. RAMP is preparing a separate design package for delivery to the ADB for construction of the four head regulators and a large capacity feeder canal. These works respond to an urgent appeal by the GOA for remedial works to alleviate the difficulties irrigators experience at some 11 canals along the Balkhab River. Each year temporary works are built and during the flood season these works are swept away and it is difficult or impossible to effect irrigation diversions.

Farm-to-Market Roads Activities

Roads were under construction in Ghazni, Kunduz, Balkh and Nangarhar provinces and more than 51 kilometers of roadway and associated structures were completed during the quarter. Surveys and designs for additional road construction were in progress in Kunduz and Hirat provinces.

Ghazni Province

RAMP's partner GRSP completed its road construction in Ghazni province by GRSP. Final inspection of the last 20 kilometers of the roads built was carried out by provincial authorities rather than RAMP personnel due to the security situation and restrictions on travel outside cities.

Nangarhar Province

90 kilometers of roads were under construction by four local NGOs: HADF, DCG, AACC, and ABR. The contracts were sized so that there should be no difficulty in completing the roads well before June 30, 2006.

Balkh Province

RAMP awarded the strategic 50 kilometer long Mazar-i-Sherif to Shogera road in two packages to PRB and KRA.

Kunduz Province

RAMP received bids were from four contractors for construction of the 65-meter long Qasim Ali Bridge that will span the Kunduz River at Aliabad. Contract award is scheduled for late January.

KRA continued construction of a spillway and other sizeable structures required for completion of eight kilometers of road that will connect the future bridge with neighboring villages.

Hirat Province

Local RAMP partner BDCIS has nearly finished construction on six bridges that span the Injil and Guzara canals.

EACC, a local Hirat contractor, continued with construction of four bridges that will span the Guzara Canal. These bridges are designed to provide canal sections with unobstructed flow. They will along with the 38 kilometers of roads bid out during the quarter will tie agricultural production areas to regional roads.

Irrigation and Drainage Activities

Over the past quarter, RAMP's partners implemented irrigation and drainage projects in Nangarhar, Balkh, Hirat, and Baghlan provinces.

Nangarhar Province

During the last quarter RSSA completed reconstruction of the flood damaged tail portion of the Nangarhar Valley Development Authority (NVDA) irrigation system. 6,000 hectares of irrigated lands had been abandoned for more than a decade and the farm families had moved elsewhere in Afghanistan and to Pakistan. With restoration of the canal and road systems and with the construction of flood works that protect the canals and villages, cultivators have returned to the area and have been producing crops for the past two seasons. The works were dedicated and handed over to provincial and local authorities and the land owners, largely of the Shinwari tribe, during a ceremony on November 4, 2005. The ceremony was attended by the Governor, his Excellency Gulagha Sherzai, RAMP engineers, and representatives from the PRT in Jalalabad.

The Governor noted that this project had restored irrigated agriculture in this formerly devastated area where some 5,000 farm families live and earn their livelihood.

The other major RAMP irrigation project in Nangarhar province is IF Hope's dredging of 114 kilometers of drains in the Kama region and in the service area of the NVDA. By the end last quarter, IF Hope had dredged all the drains of the Kama area and 28 kilometers of the 70 kilometers of drains that are scheduled for cleaning and rehabilitation in the NVDA area. IF Hope engaged a contractor, HADF, to design and cost use of dredged spoil for construction of light-duty, local-access roads atop the embankments being created along the drains. Construction of roads and associated structures began on two segments of the drains of the NVDA area.

RAMP anticipates that by next quarter all dredging will have been completed and nearly 48 kilometers of roads will have been built in segments along the drains to service farmsteads of the NVDA.

Balkh Province

NESPAK continued providing consulting engineering services for the investigation, design and preparation of tender documents for construction of three weirs across the Balkhab River and for the construction of feeder canals and eight head regulators. RAMP prepared contract documents for bidding of the first of the three river weirs being designed. Pre-qualified contractors visited the sites and submitted bids. To date, RAMP has not granted any construction awards for these activities in Balkh.

RAMP management has decided to concentrate resources for the construction of the weir to be located at Samar Kandian. This cross-river weir will serve four (Chimtal, Dawlatabad, Abdullah and Mushtaq) of the eight canals with damaged headworks and improve the supply of water to in excess of 150,000 hectares of the originally planned 300,000 hectare program. RAMP continues to review construction proposals and anticipates awarding the contracts in February 2006.

Hirat Province

Rehabilitation of the Guzara and Injil canal systems in Hirat Province proceeded apace with: 1) the issuance of tender documents for the construction of clusters of structures (water dividers and canal intakes) of the Guzara Canal system, 2) evaluation of competitive bids, the award of contracts and the start of construction for the replacement and repair of four aqueducts, 3) completion of design, the securing of right-of-way and the start of construction of a structure that will exclude flood flows and high sediment loads from the Injil and Haft Qolb canals, 4) the evaluation of bids and award of a contract to build a siphon that will pass the flow of the Injil Canal under the Band-e-Rig flood channel, and 5) the continuing construction of ten bridges along the Guzara and Injil canals.

RAFA had designed headworks to control flood flows and to exclude sediments from the Injil and Haft Qolb canals during the preceding quarter. A major effort for securing land right-of-way was undertaken by RAMP/Chemonics and our IP RAFA this quarter, because even though there was prior understanding with the local community for construction of the structure at the selected site, a land owner came forward hoping to be paid for land in the river bed where the sediment sluice is to be located. The foremost religious leader of the district appealed in a large public meeting for resolution of the issue. Even further effort on the part of local and provincial authorities was required to finally resolve the issue and to permit the start of construction.

RAMP partner AARAO, completed designs for approximately 150 structures for regulation of water along the Guzara and Injil canals. The designs were discussed with the water users, mirabs and Irrigation Directorate. RAMP issued three bid packages to nine pre-qualified contractors and bids are scheduled for delivery during January 2006.

Five pre-qualified contractors submitted bids for the construction of a siphon under the Band-e-Rig Wash along the Injil Canal and for the rehabilitation and construction of four large capacity aqueducts along the Guzara Canal and its branches. RAMP has evaluated the bids and issued two contracts, to STAAR and BDCI respectively, for the construction of the siphon and the aqueducts.

Baghlan Province

RAMP has contracted DAI to clean and rehabilitate the Ab Qul and Gurgurak Canals and to build diversion works on the Kunduz River to service these two canal commands. The initiation of work began just when there was a surplus of labor due to the onset of winter in Baghlan. DAI was able to disburse wages to many hundred laborers in time for the Eid celebration in January. DAI is continuing with a program of using materials supplied by local vendors and using as much labor as possible.

Agricultural Technology and Market Development

The accomplishments this quarter in agricultural technology transfer and market development included increased access to regional and international markets, significant farmer and merchant association development, improvements in agricultural productivity, post-harvest handling, storage, processing, product quality, packaging, and shipping, and significant and practical use of various product testing and diagnostic laboratories. In addition, with more trained para-vets and women operating an expanded number of Veterinary Field Units and poultry production units, respectively, the livestock industry has greatly benefited. The following sections provide an overview of RAMP's activities within each province that focus on the marketing and production of each priority commodity group: fresh/dried fruit, nuts, vegetables, livestock and wheat.

Fresh Fruit

Fifty metric tons (mt) of fresh grapes were exported by Afghan traders/exporters technically assisted by RAMP Implementing Partners (IPs) as follow-up shipments to Dubai, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Delhi and as initial shipments to Germany and Russia. Besides the assistance in shipping fresh grapes via the cold chain, the traders/exporters received training in sorting, selecting, preparing, and packaging the grapes according to the requirements of the buyers. Strategies for improving the competitiveness of grape producers and traders/exporters are being implemented. Policy reforms (such as, eliminating the costly process of unloading of to-be-exported fresh fruit off Afghan trucks and reloading Pakistan trucks, a procedure that costs Afghan traders/exporters \$US 0.434 per box, that is, about \$3 million/season) for improving the competitiveness of Afghan fresh fruit exports are being addressed.

Kandahar/Hilmand Provinces

Many grape producers (of Shindokhani grapes) in Kandahar received the added benefit of at least 30% higher prices for their grapes as a result of, among other things, additional grapes being exported through RAMP's technical assistance. The Fresh Fruit Exporters' Association of Kandahar (FFEAK), one of 53 farmer, input dealer, trader, processor, or exporter associations organized by RAMP and its IPs, has been proactive in working closely with RAMP Implementing Partners in getting trade barriers identified and potentially eliminated and in expanding regional market access. The FFEAK's processing center in Habib City is fully constructed and will be fitted with the pre-cooler and cold storage units in the spring.

CADG, a RAMP IP, facilitated the packing and shipping of two containers of pomegranates to Singapore and pomegranate samples to Dubai. Due to the poor quality of the fruit upon arrival and poor packing of the pomegranates, the shipments were not well received and follow-up shipments were not requested.

In Hilmand, cold storage units, to be installed in the Farmers' Associations' warehouses which are under construction, have been partially paid for by the Associations. Cold storage for holding fresh fruits and vegetables for a short time until off season prices are available is profitable. With the installation and operation of these and additional cold storage units, significant quantities of fresh fruit and vegetables can be kept off the market, dried, processed, or exported.

Extension services were provided to thousands of farmers in managing the (RAMP-assisted) 84 micro-nurseries and 54 orchards, budding, maintaining trellises and drip irrigation, and the post-harvest/winter vineyard activities. Fields days were held in various districts in Kandahar to inform farmers best practices on preparing vineyards for next year.

Parwan Province

Producers did not get the higher prices as experienced in Kandahar since the demand for the fresh Kishmishi (Thompson seedless) grapes, a smaller grape, did not sell at high enough prices to cover the cold storage and transport costs to regional markets besides Pakistan. However, Taiffee (large and red) grapes are in demand (at higher prices) both domestically and internationally and were exported. To increase the quantity produced of Taiffee, strategies are in place with the producers of the Shamali Plains to intensify the production of Taiffee and other grapes that have strong demand.

Extension services were provided to over 6,000 grape producers in managing nurseries, selecting cultivars, changing to more marketable varieties, trellising for canopy protection, and in winter protection of vines.

Dried Fruit

RAMP IPs assisted traders/exporters in accessing and shipping over 806 mt of high-quality raisins to markets in Ukraine, Russia, and Saudi Arabia. Three raisin processing plants upgraded their facilities along with RAMP assistance to be able to process and package higher quality raisins. Extension services focused on demonstrating improved post-harvest methods for maintaining good quality raisins, shade drying for producing high-valued green raisins, and assisting farmers in investing in and

constructing kishmish khanas (shade drying facilities). A RAMP-funded, market study of the Far East (Japan, China, Taiwan, Korea) markets, indicated market opportunities for Afghan dried fruit and nuts. Product quality and attractive packaging are important in these as well as other international markets. To build the capacity for comprehensive testing of the quality of Afghan products, RAMP sent Afghan technicians from the Raisin and Other Dried Fruit Export Institute for training in microbiological laboratory techniques to the Central Food Technological Research Institute in India. With the equipment for aflatoxin and microbiological testing long ago installed and trained technicians at the Export Institute, the Export Institute has the capacity to assure quality products to worldwide markets.

Kandahar/Zabul

Farmers, who were trained in drying and sulphuring over 76 mt of dried apricots, sold their apricots to traders who received assistance from RAMP in processing and marketing (domestically) the dried apricots. The Dried Fruit Exporters' Association's dried fruit and nut processing plant in the new industrial park in Kandahar City is 45% complete.

Parwan/Kabul

Afghan processors/exporters that received assistance from RAMP shipped 400 mt of high quality raisins to Ukraine and the same amount to Russia. The processors/exporters now have access to a more lucrative market in these countries. With the improvements (partially funded by RAMP) made at their processing plants, these processors/exporters are expanding their markets and increasing their sales.

Nuts

The three nut processing associations supported by RAMP have made construction progress on the buildings that will hold the processing lines. The Ghorband Nut Processors Association has completed the building in Kabul and is ready for the installation of the equipment. The Kandahar Dried Fruit Exporters Association building had some building flaws that had to be addressed, consequently, the building completion is less than half way finished. The Mazar Nut Processors Association has completed only 30% of the construction as they have had internal Association concerns and problems.

The nut processing (sizing, shelling, and picking with ultraviolet sterilization) lines under construction in California by Robert Lemos, a processing equipment engineer contracted by RAMP to manufacture the lines, are 85% complete in design, 70% complete in parts and materials on site, 50% complete in parts ready for assembly, 20% complete in final assembly, and 20% complete in documentation manuals. Each processing line is designed to size, shell, and sterilize almonds, size-in-shell pistachios and/or walnuts, shell pistachios and/or walnuts, allow for picking rejects on picking tables, sterilize the meats and (partially sterilize) the in-shell nuts. The nut processing equipment and machinery is expected to be completed and shipped to Afghanistan within the next 120 days.

Roots of Peace (RoP), a RAMP IP, has assisted an Afghan exporter in shipping an initial shipment of 6 mt of almonds to a buyer in Saudi Arabia. RoP led an Afghan delegation, including 5 nut exporters, to the India International Trade Fair (IITF) in New Delhi (India), where more than 50 buyers of dried fruit and nuts were identified last year. The Afghan Embassy in Delhi held a seminar (attended by Afghan exporters and Ministry of Commerce staff) and reception for Indian importers at the Afghan Embassy. Trade issues, including tariffs, transportation, market acceptance, banking, and packaging, were discussed.

RoP provided technical assistance and extension services (795 farmers participated in 55 field days) and conducted 22 spraying and pruning demonstrations (287 farmers participated) in Parwan (Ghorband District), Samangan, and Balkh provinces.

RAMP funded the training, entitled "Determination of Photogenic Bacteria in Dried Fruits and Nuts", of two technicians from the Raisin and Other Dried Fruit Export Institute of the Ministry of Commerce in microbiological testing methods for *Salmonella*, *E.coli*, and *Listeria* at the Central Food Technological Research Institute in Bangalore, India. Mr. Moqamuddin, RAMP's Senior Food Technologist, accompanied the Institute's technicians (and a technician from Development Works Canada and the dehydrated vegetable plant) and provided further explanation of the training topics to these Afghans, who have limited backgrounds in microbiology. The technicians were trained on microbial groups that are associated with food and water, on enumerating, identifying and isolating *E.coli*, Coliform,

Salmonella and Listeria in raisins, almonds, pistachios, apricots, and cashew nuts, on mycotoxin and its significance in food and dried fruits, and on HPLC techniques to determine aflatoxin content.

RAMP's IPs have worked comprehensively with the Raisin and Other Dried Fruit Export Institute in all aspects of upgrading their human and physical resources, and their technical, communications, and administrative capacity. In the past quarter, RAMP organized and funded daily English and computer training at the Institute, many of the staff are now more effective in making the Institute a vital organization in the dried fruit and nut industry. Thirty-two samples of dried fruit were taken from different raisin and almond processing units at Kabul and customs houses and subjected to quality testing in the Institute's laboratory, two quality control certificates for dried fruit and nuts have been designed and circulated for final approval, and an aflatoxin awareness manual for processors/exporters has been completed.

Vegetables

Four containers (approximately 30 mt valued at about \$110,000) of dried vegetables were shipped to buyers in the United Kingdom or prepared for shipping at the vegetable dehydration factory in Parwan province. The factory employed 95 employees, including 53 women and 42 men working on two shifts, six days per week. Nine hundred twenty-five farmers (with 342 hectares for vegetables) and 315 women (including 24 widows and those with disabled husbands) from 29 villages were contracted to supply the factory with specific types of vegetables and sun-dried tomatoes, respectively. These contracted farmers received a total of 7468 kg of vegetable seeds and 71 mt of fertilizer.

The results of CADG's (in Hilmand and Kandahar) and ICARDA's vegetable demonstrations (in five priority provinces) indicated that using best practices to produce tomatoes, onions, okra, eggplant, and potatoes will give a consistent return to the land of over \$2000/hectare. The crop values were 48% and more than 100% higher for ICARDA's demonstrations and CADG's demonstrations, respectively, versus the traditionally cultivated crop values.

Greenhouse demonstrations of ICARDA and CADG have provided results that indicate a payback period of about two and one-half years. Forty-seven farmers in RAMP's priority provinces have contributed at least 20% to the cost of purchasing and installing a greenhouse.

Livestock

3.35 million vaccinations, medications, and other veterinary services were delivered by Veterinary Field Units (VFUs) in 259 districts throughout Afghanistan. One-hundred seventy-two paravets from different provinces received training at the Dutch Committee of Afghanistan's Veterinary Training and Service Centers. Ten of 70 solar powered refrigerators were installed in the DCA Kabul region. The administrative procedure for the importation of two million doses of Enterotoxemia vaccine from Jordan was completed.

2,462 selected women and 895 interested women were trained in poultry production methods in Kunduz, Parwan, Baghlan, Ghazni, Nangarhar, Bamiyan and Hirat provinces. The Poultry Producer Groups, including the 151 new ones, organized 643 technical sessions with more than 14,500 trained women in villages in these provinces. Over 76,000 pullets, 5,600 coops, and 130 mt of poultry feed were distributed to trained women. Over 187,000 eggs were marketed by trained women.

After two seasons of demonstrating fish farming best practices in Kunduz province and providing technical assistance to interested farmers, RAMP was credited for providing the business development support that has now resulted in the formation of the Kataghan Fish Farmers Association composed of over 50 members who are building fish ponds with some financial support from Mercy Corps.

Wheat

ICARDA's Village Based Seed Enterprises (VBSEs) have business plans and by-laws and have taken steps to utilize their assets for improving their seed business. In Kunduz, the three VBSEs, with RAMP-built warehouses, that received loans from IFDC for storing their seed wheat, profited greatly from having stored their seed. The Archi, Ali Abad, and Char Dara VBSEs in Kunduz sold 340 mt of seed wheat to IFDC for \$420 per mt. These VBSEs paid back their loans to IFDC. As soon as they had harvested their rice, these VBSEs were successful at obtaining a loan for storing their rice seed in their warehouses. The Crop Producers' Associations (CPAs) in Kunduz have followed the lead of

these VBSEs and are now using their warehouses and have obtained credit from IFDC for storing wheat, rice seed, and/or cotton. The credit these VBSEs and CPAs have received has been used principally for purchasing inputs.

Other VBSEs have also benefited from having stored their seed wheat, albeit in their own traditional facilities. The ICARDA village-based seed enterprises (VBSEs) in Bolan and Nad-i-Ali Districts in Hilmand sold 220 mt to IFDC at the rate of \$350 per mt. Four VBSEs in Nanagarhar sold 426 mt of seed wheat for an average price of \$132 per mt.

RAMP partner GIA provided technical training in warehousing and wheat storage and handling to the VBSEs and CPAs in Kunduz. Pallets, pallet jacks, and weigh scales provided to the VBSEs and CPAs (on a cost-sharing basis) have allowed these groups to upgrade their warehouse operating efficiency.

The Sunn pest/locust emergency control program in northern and western Afghanistan for 2006 is being organized by FAO, the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD) of the MAAHF, and possibly World Vision International. Field trips were taken with the PPQD/MAAHF Department Head to Hirat and the north-western provinces to discuss with the Provincial Agriculture/PPQD Department staff, local authorities, and local farmers the plans for the Sunn pest emergency control program in 2006. FAO carried out the Sunn pest over-wintering survey in northern and western Afghanistan.

CADG, with the help of the Provincial Agricultural Directorate and the PRT in Lashkarghar, is planning the emergency control campaign for 2006. A detailed workplan and budget for the Sunn pest control has been approved by RAMP, and the overwintering survey has been conducted by CADG.

Rural Financial Services

Although the grant between RAMP and the Microfinance Investment and Support Facility Agency (MISFA) was completed in August 2005, there continues to be coordination between the organizations. During the Quarter, RAMP attended meetings at MISFA regarding future funding sources for microfinance activities. Also, the RAMP Director of Rural Finance participated as a judge for a UN sponsored ceremony celebrating the International Year of Microcredit. The ceremony was a culmination of a competition for the Global Microentrepreneurship Awards as various Afghan microentrepreneurs were nominated by their microfinance institutions as the best in their industry.

The Afghanistan International Bank (AIB) was fully granted the funds allocated from RAMP primarily based on the results and recommendations of a third party review of their performance to date. AIB continued to expand to the provinces and opened their branch in Kandahar. The new branch office in Hirat is undergoing some renovations and will be open for business in early 2006. AIB had a steady pipeline of agribusiness deals that were primarily prepared by Flag International during the quarter.

The Afghanistan Finance Company (AFC) spent most of the quarter on strategic planning and capacity building issues. AFC has drafted a strategic plan that needs to be polished and distributed to potential donors and investors to increase their capital base. AFC has established a technical assistance relationship with a premier Pakistani leasing company, Orix, to develop the AFC's staff capacity. Orix delivered intensive training to the AFC staff on the intricacies of leasing and, also, reviewed and commented on the deals done to-date that total over \$610,000.

The Afghanistan Renewal Fund has been finalized and closed. The private investor planning to contribute to the Fund reneged on his commitment during the quarter and his committed investment amount was topped up by the other institutional investors. Eventually, another private investor will be identified to take ownership in the Fund to replace this private investor so the ownership will be more divided between institutional and private investors.

Flag International (FI), the business development services partner of RAMP, continues to drive the processing of business plans for agribusinesses to access financing preferably from the RAMP-supported financial partners. Their results to-date have exceeded expectations as they have reached up to 132 entrepreneurs through trainings and/or one-on-one technical assistance.

Accomplishments this Quarter

The recognition and awareness of microfinance has increased through increased publicity of the activities of the microfinance institutions through newsletters, posters and award ceremonies. Even though the RAMP grant is completed with MISFA, there will continue to be impact to micro agribusinesses as the loan funds through the microfinance institutions will keep on revolving.

Small and medium sized agribusinesses continued to receive business consulting assistance through Flag International and financing through our bank partner, AIB, and our financing company, AFC. The loan funds with AIB are revolving which allows for additional loans to be made. AIB's strategy is to keep these grant funds outstanding in loans to qualified agricultural entrepreneurs. New clients were served from Laghman, Kabul, Hirat and Balkh who were involved in the processing of cakes and biscuits, sugar cubes, bread factory and carpets and, also, fish farming.

The level of coordination between Flag International and the financial institutions is expanding and is very effective. There was also coordination with some of the other agricultural subcontractors involved in agribusiness such as Roots of Peace, Grain Industry Alliance, Land of Lakes and IFDC who presented clients to our financial partners. Other private sector initiatives such as On the Frontier and CNFA also presented potential clients to the RAMP rural finance partners.

There were two major conferences during the quarter in which some of our partners participated. AIB, AFC and the Fund all participated in a conference in Washington DC sponsored by the Afghanistan International Chamber of Commerce (AICC) in October. AIB and AFC both set-up exhibit booths at the ECO conference held in November in Kabul.

A draft report was completed on the impact of the rural finance activities on RAMP's goals and it was estimated that through realized and projected activities the investment impact would be \$7M.

Challenges Encountered

This risk of lending to small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) is coming to the fore as we are faced with borrowers in default. AIB spent much time managing their risk exposure of two agribusiness borrowers who faced problems in timely repayment of their loans. RAMP assisted AIB with follow-up to these clients – one located in Andkhoy and the other located in Kabul. Some of the common challenges amongst all the financial institutions are: identifying, training and retaining qualified staff; keeping focused on the specific goals and not being sidetracked by donor or other project objectives; high costs of traveling and communicating from distant areas; and the length of time it takes to register collateral. All of these challenges represent a time factor that is not controllable and can cause delays in reaching the institution's targets and goals.

Looking Ahead

RAMP will provide any assistance needed by MISFA to make the case to be autonomous from the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD). MRRD is planning to do an evaluation of the microfinance activities and RAMP will be an active member of the evaluation team.

AIB will carry on with their lending to agribusinesses. RAMP will work with AIB to ensure they are proactively reaching out to clients and not waiting for RAMP to take the lead.

AFC will decide their strategy on the placement of a branch network; pilot a new leasing product targeted to the village communities; and assess their staff's capabilities and determine who will remain with the company.

Flag International will continue to actively train, provide business planning preparation services and deliver post-finance assistance to agribusiness clients. Flag will expand their services to accommodate the outreach of the bank, finance company and venture capital fund. Afghan nut associations will continue to receive priority from Flag's services.

The Afghanistan Renewal Fund will have an active presence in Kabul during the 1st Quarter of 2006. RAMP along with the other partners will provide leads to the Fund for potential clients.

Security Report

The Security situation throughout Afghanistan has deteriorated in the last quarter with almost daily contacts in all border regions between government forces and anti government elements (AGEs). As well as military contacts there have been numerous Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) throughout the country. Possibly the most worrying situation is the rise in the number of suicide attackers throughout the region.

Kabul

During the last quarter the major incidents within the capital have been;

- A Vehicle Borne Improvised Explosive Device (VBIED) against the German military on the Jalalabad Road, followed by a back up Improvised Explosive Device (IED) against the security forces who arrived at the scene.
- A Vehicle Borne Improvised Explosive Device (VBIED) driven by a suicide bomber targeted security forces on the Darulaman Road, close to the King's Palace two days before the opening of parliament. The King's Palace is the proposed site of the new parliament building.
- The police recovered a body of one suicide bomber who was killed when the bomb he was arming exploded prematurely. This bomb was made from two gas canisters that were being placed into the trunk of his taxi. At the site were four injured individuals and two further vehicles that were being prepared to use as Vehicle Borne Improvised Explosive Devices (VBIEDs).

The major threats within the capital remain Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) and Kidnap for Ransom of Ex-patriots by criminal elements.

The out of town movement policy, the use of Armed Gurkhas from Olive Group to accompany all road moves within the local provinces, remains in place as does the evening curfew of 2130 hrs.

RAMP awaits the delivery of two more B6 armored Land Cruisers from South Africa.

Mazar I Sharif

The attack upon the British members of the Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) remains the most serious incident to have occurred during this time frame. A lone gunman opened fire upon a soft skinned PRT LandCruiser with an AK47 rifle. One member of the team was killed while the other four all suffered serious injuries. The gunman, according to police sources was a disgruntled teenager with no political or religious axe to grind.

The general situation in the Balkh Region is deteriorating. It is alleged by both security forces and Afghan National Police (ANP) that throughout the summer and autumn period there was a large influx of Anti – Government Elements (AGEs) who had orders to stay behind over the winter period to cause trouble. There are regular contacts (gun battles) between government forces and AGEs, far more so than during this time period last year.

Risk and Risk Mitigation

The major risks throughout the country continue to be shootings, IEDs, and the potential for kidnapping. All RAMP staff members are continually being reminded of the need to be vigilant at all times. The malaise that some people, not RAMP staff however, allow themselves to fall into is at best cavalier and at worst down right dangerous.

All of our ex-patriot staff are making use of the armored vehicles that we currently have and with two more arriving shortly our ability to provide a secure transport platform will be increased once more.

The radio network is near completion with 21 of our vehicles now having been fitted with UHF units. A base station has been fitted into the radio room at the RAMP office in The Ministry of Agriculture and Food. This office is now manned 24/7. With a repeater fitted onto a radio mast at the top of TV Hill this should provide us with reliable communications out to a radius of approximately 50kms from Kabul. We continue to use cell phones and Satellite phones. CODAN is also fitted to some of our vehicles with a base station to be fitted in the radio room shortly.



**Rebuilding Agricultural Markets Program (RAMP)
Activities by Province in Afghanistan
December 2005**



Baghlan
Irrigation and Road Rehabilitation, JO#03- Project Completed. DAI cleaned, widened and de-silted 51 km of canals in drains, and rehabilitated 34.9 km of farm-to-market roads in Baghlan.
Locust Control for Increased Agricultural Production in Northern Afghanistan, JO#30: - Project Completed. In 2005, FAO implemented emergency locust control activities in northern Afghanistan and renovated the laboratory of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD) in the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food (MAAHF). PPQD laboratory is located in Kabul.
Locust Control for Increased Agricultural Production in Northern Afghanistan, JO# 31: - Project Completed. In 2005, GOAL implemented a program to mitigate the impact of Moroccan locusts on rural livelihoods in Northern Afghanistan. Key activities included the chemical control of locusts with the provision of technical support, plastic sheeting, nets, barrels for water, ploughs and tents; monitoring of locust-infested sites and program advances through constant feedback, crop damage assessments, and locust egg-bed surveys; and final evaluation and provision of data for the locust database, the FAO, and AIMS.
Canal Rehabilitation in Baghlan, JO#43: - DAI is clearing 52.34 km of canals in Baghlan (two sections: Gurgurak, Ab Qul).
Emergency Locust and Sunn pest Control in Northern Afghanistan; Capacity Building of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD), Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry (MAAH), JO#50: Ongoing emergency chemical and mechanical pest control activities throughout Baghlan.

Balkh
Balkh Irrigation System Rehabilitation/Construction: Survey and Design Component, JO#53: HAFO and NESPAK have been conducting a range irrigation surveys and designing irrigation structures in Balkh province. The deliverables produced through this purchase order and subcontract will contribute to the construction components carried out by other Implementing Partners contracted under JO#53.
Road Rehabilitation in Balkh, JO#17: - Project Completed AREA rehabilitated 96.9 km of road in the Balkh province, including the construction of culverts and other necessary road structures, improving main transportation routes leading to the main bazaar and local markets.
Road Rehabilitation in Balkh, JO#38: PRB (working with KRA) is rehabilitating 22.025 kms of roadway that carries traffic from Kod Barq toward Sholgera City in Sholgera district of Balkh province.
Road Rehabilitation in Balkh, JO#38: KRA (working with PRB) is rehabilitating 19.775 kms of roadway and structures from kilometer 22.025 to kilometer 41.8 of the road that carries traffic from Kod Barq (km 22.025) toward Sholgera City in Sholgera District of Balkh Province.
Locust Control for Increased Agricultural Production in Northern Afghanistan, JO#30: - Project Completed. In 2005, FAO implemented emergency locust control activities in northern Afghanistan and renovated the laboratory of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD) in the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food (MAAHF). PPQD laboratory is located in Kabul.
Locust Control for Increased Agricultural Production in Northern Afghanistan, JO# 31: - Project Completed. In 2005, GOAL implemented a program to mitigate the impact of Moroccan locusts on rural livelihoods in Northern Afghanistan. Key activities included the chemical control of locusts with the provision of technical support, plastic sheeting, nets, barrels for water, ploughs and tents; monitoring of locust-infested sites and program advances through constant feedback, crop damage assessments, and locust egg-bed surveys; and final evaluation and provision of data for the locust database, the FAO, and AIMS.
Emergency Locust and Sunn pest Control in Northern Afghanistan; Capacity Building of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD), Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry (MAAH), JO#50: Ongoing emergency chemical and mechanical pest control activities throughout Balkh.

Bamyan
Village Women's Poultry Production and Market Development, JO#05: FAO is providing training in improved poultry care and production to over 28,000 village women, and is introducing poultry income generating activities to open new markets for the surplus eggs.
Agri-Input Dealer Training and Development, JO# 24: IFDC is training 2,000 agri-input dealers, improving market transparency through analysis and dissemination of market information, develop business linkages between Afghan and regional suppliers of agri-inputs and establish five private sector associations of agri-input dealers.

Faryab
Emergency Locust and Sunn pest Control in Northern Afghanistan; Capacity Building of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD), Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry (MAAH), JO#50: Ongoing emergency chemical and mechanical pest control activities throughout Faryab.

Ghazni
Village Women's Poultry Production and Market Development, JO#05: FAO is providing training in improved poultry care and production to over 28,000 village women, and is introducing poultry income generating activities to open new markets for the surplus eggs.
Bridge Construction in Aga Khil, JO#14- Project Completed. AREA reconstructed the bridge (24 meters long, 3 meters high with 42 culverts) near Aga Khil in Wardak which connected Ghazni-Hazarajat market centers. Also, 42 km of road has been rehabilitated including 42 washes and culverts.
Repair of Ghazni-Meray Access Road, and Road Rehabilitation in Malistan and Jaghori Districts, JO#19, #22: - Project Completed GRSP has rehabilitated 26.6 km of Loman Qarabagh road and 55 km. of Jaghuri Malistan road. These roads provide access to the main Kabul-Kandahar highway from Ghazni, Andar and Qarabagh districts of Ghazni province.
Grain Postharvest Storage, Milling, Processing and Market Development, JO#28: GIA is providing training opportunities and demonstration sites for grain cleaning, storage and handling of grain, developing community level storage sites, full scale farm demonstration units and small farm demonstration units. Additionally, GIA is working with other RAMP partners to establish a network of refrigerated storage and transport facilities to reduce spoilage rates of fresh produce.
Virus-free Potato Seed Production and Market Development, JO#06:- ICARDA and its subcontractors are providing technical guidance in needs assessment, machinery and equipment needs, purchase of start-up inputs, and training for virus-free potato seed production, multiplication, storage and marketing.
Village-Based Seed Enterprises, JO#07: ICARDA is developing village-based seed enterprises (VBSE) as well as conducting market surveys/needs assessments and providing technical guidance in appropriate machinery and equipment usage, procurement of start-up inputs, and training for virus-free potato seed production, multiplication, storage and marketing.
On-Farm Crop Demonstrations and Best Practices, JO#08: ICARDA is developing demonstration plots in farmer's fields throughout the 5 provinces to facilitate the rapid diffusion and adoption of new technologies, improved and adapted varieties, improved field irrigation management practices, and appropriate crop management.
Protected Agriculture, JO#09:- ICARDA is introducing protected agriculture for cash crop production in marginal and water deficit areas of Afghanistan. The project is promoting the adoption of affordable and sustainable protected agricultural systems to produce high value crops, using marginal or otherwise non-productive lands and water more efficiently, by establishing a central demonstration and training site within Kabul and by installing simple greenhouse structures at selected pilot sites with participating farmers.
Agri-Input Dealer Training and Development, JO# 24: IFDC is training 2,000 agri-input dealers, improving market transparency through analysis and dissemination of market information, develop business linkages between Afghan and regional suppliers of agri-inputs and establish five private sector associations of agri-input dealers.
Grape Production Improvement, Agricultural Production, Processing and Market Development, JO#29:- RoP is providing extension services for Afghan grape farmers and training for MAAHF extension agents, developing model farms for best practices, creating market/collection centers, improving grape vine propagation; establishing Farmer Owned Businesses; and promoting commercial sales management to re-establish and develop local, regional, and international markets. Roots of Peace has assisted Afghanistan increase its exports of fresh fruit by helping local traders enter new markets and expand sales in existing markets in the region. Roots of Peace activities have led to exports to the following markets: India, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and United Arab Emirates (Dubai)

Hilmand
Agricultural Production, Processing and Market Development, JO# 23: CADG is establishing demonstration farms, contract growing of selected crops, and providing technical assistance and expertise in the areas of agriculture, processing and marketing, application of technologies to crop development, and implementation of drip irrigation plots.
Irrigation Canal and Drain Rehabilitation in Hilmand, JO#03- Project Completed. DAI cleaned, widened and de-silted 109 km of drains (Naway I Barakzai and Marja), and 15 km of canals (Marja) in Hilmand.
Grain Postharvest Storage, Milling, Processing and Market Development, JO#28: GIA is providing training opportunities and demonstration sites for grain cleaning, storage and handling of grain, developing community level storage sites, full scale farm demonstration units and small farm demonstration units. Additionally, GIA is working with other RAMP partners to establish a network of refrigerated storage and transport facilities to reduce spoilage rates of fresh produce.
Infrastructure to Support Agriculture, JO#43: Project Completed. DAI completed dredging of more than one-half the major drains of the Middle Hilmand Irrigation system of 100,000 hectares before moving north to clean and rehabilitate the Ab Qul and gurgurak canals of Baghlan province. Additionally DAI cleaned pockets of sediment from the Boghra Canal between km 30+000 and 70+000.
Hilmand Institution Building and Advisory Services in Support of Alternative Livelihoods Campaign, JO#44: DAI is working at the national level to design the organizational structure and chartering of water user associations. The project is designed to empower water users to become self financing for operation, maintenance and management of canal and drainage systems from the farm gate to the river intake.
Alternative Incomes Project, JO#46: Project Discontinued for Security Concerns. AIP, implemented by Chemonics International was an integral part of USAID/Kabul's Alternative Livelihoods Strategy for Afghanistan. In close consultation with all levels of the Afghan government, communities and donor agencies, and in support of the larger government of Afghanistan counter-narcotic initiative, AIP managed labor-intensive cash-for-work infrastructure projects and community development grants supporting economically-viable alternatives to poppy production. Although AIP's cash-for-work component was absorbed by and now managed by ALP/S, RAMP continued to manage the community development grants implemented by Mercy Corps, INTERSOS, and VARA.
Project to Support Income Generation and Agricultural Training, JO#46: Project Completed. Through AIP, Mercy Corps International provided vocational training in agricultural and poultry production, and to produced agricultural radio programs to raise awareness in best practices for food processing and domestic agriculture activities.
Hilmand Alternative Income Opportunities Program, JO#46: - Project Completed. Through AIP, INTERSOS facilitated vocational training programs for approximately 300 men and women residing at the Mokhtar Internally Displaced Person (IDP) camp.
Income Generating & Construction Activities for Sustainable Livelihood in Hilmand, JO#46: VARA is providing vocational training in agriculture and poultry production and tailoring; and constructing two community centers for women in Nad-e-Ali and Grishk regions of Hilmand.
Virus-free Potato Seed Production and Market Development, JO#06:- ICARDA and its subcontractors are providing technical guidance in needs assessment, machinery and equipment needs, purchase of start-up inputs, and training for virus-free potato seed production, multiplication, storage and marketing.
Village-Based Seed Enterprises, JO#07: ICARDA is developing village-based seed enterprises (VBSE) as well as conducting market surveys/needs assessments and providing technical guidance in appropriate machinery and equipment usage, procurement of start-up inputs, and training for virus-free potato seed production, multiplication, storage and marketing.
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<p>Grape Production Improvement, Agricultural Production, Processing and Market Development, JO#29:- RoP is providing extension services for Afghan grape farmers and training for MAAHF extension agents, developing model farms for best practices, creating market/collection centers, improving grape vine propagation; establishing Farmer Owned Businesses; and promoting commercial sales management to re-establish and develop local, regional, and international markets. Roots of Peace has assisted Afghanistan increase its exports of fresh fruit by helping local traders enter new markets and expand sales in existing markets in the region. Roots of Peace activities have led to exports to the following markets: India, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and United Arab Emirates (Dubai)</p>
<p>Drain Rehabilitation in Hilmand, Jo#43 - Project Completed. DAI has rehabilitated 64.14 km of drains in Hilmand (three sections: Darweshan, Shamalan, Upper Boghra).</p>

Hirat
<p>Village Women's Poultry Production and Market Development, JO#05: FAO is providing training in improved poultry care and production to over 28,000 village women, and is introducing poultry income generating activities to open new markets for the surplus eggs.</p>
<p>Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project: Survey and Design Component, JO#27: BCRC, ARAO, and QCC have been conducting a range irrigation surveys and designing irrigation structures/bridges in Hirat province. The deliverables produced through these purchase orders contribute to the construction components carried out by other Implementing Partners contracted to rehabilitate irrigation systems in Hirat.</p>
<p>Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project, JO#27: BDCI is constructing the Trishriza 1 Arch aqueduct on Ziaratjah branch of the Guzara canal and Trishriza 2 aqueduct on Joi Malan branch of Guzara Canal. BDCI is also repairing the Kurte Soflak Paymala Awal aqueduct in Trishrizan and constructing/repairing the Kurt Khujanur RCC aqueduct in Kurt Khujanur in Hirat province.</p>
<p>Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project, JO#27: BDCIS surveyed 12 bridges on the Guzara and Injil canals and subsequently created construction designs for 10 bridges. BDCIS is now constructing 7 bridges on these canals</p>
<p>Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project, JO#27: RAFA is constructing water control and sediment flush out structures for Injil and Haft Qulb Canals in Hirat province.</p>
<p>Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project, JO#27: - EACC is reconstructing/rehabilitating 4 bridges – Chal Nashin, Khalifa, Ghazi, and Molay Moazen - on the Guzara canal in Hirat province.</p>
<p>Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project, JO#27: STAAR is constructing Bande Rig Siphon on Injil Canal crossing under Pashtan Wash located in Hirat province and sited on Injil canal. The siphon is to carry water across the dry wash in a concrete flume. Flow of the canal shall be maintained throughout the period of construction.</p>
<p>Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project, JO#27: TCC is constructing 3 water dividers and 31 outlets from Station 20+622 up to Station 25+951 of the Injil canal in Hirat province.</p>
<p>Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project, JO#27A: ARAO is constructing 2 retaining walls, 2 water dividers and 15 outlets from Station 20+622 up to Station 25+951 of the Injil canal in Hirat province.</p>
<p>Western Afghanistan Agribusiness Program, JO#27: - Project Completed. CRS was working to create new market opportunities for three high-value crops (tomato, saffron, cumin) and provide related technical assistance to producers and agricultural processors in Hirat province. CRS established crop-specific Technical Working Groups (TWG) to conduct market assessments, disseminate market information, and facilitate business contracts among stakeholders for targeted crops, and provided training in food safety and quality standards for producer groups and traders; market opportunity identification and market supply chain analysis for producer groups and TWGs; crop improvement, processing technologies, handling and transport for producer groups</p>
<p>Road Rehabilitation in Hirat: Survey and Design, JO#38: - ARAO is conducting a survey and design of 43 km of roads around Gozarah and Enjil canals including two bridges, each with an approximate length of 13 meters and 7 meters.</p>
<p>Grain Postharvest Storage, Milling, Processing and Market Development, JO#28: GIA is providing training opportunities and demonstration sites for grain cleaning, storage and handling of grain, developing community level storage sites, full scale farm demonstration units and small farm demonstration units. Additionally, GIA is working with other RAMP partners to establish a network of refrigerated storage and transport facilities to reduce spoilage rates of fresh produce.</p>

Jawzjan
Emergency Locust and Sunn pest Control in Northern Afghanistan; Capacity Building of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD), Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry (MAAH), JO#50: Ongoing emergency chemical and mechanical pest control activities throughout Jawzjan

Kabul
Direct Seedling Agriculture Project - JO#08B:- IAM is examining effectiveness of using John Deere direct seeders for dry land wheat production at a six sites in Kabul and Kunduz provinces.
Protected Agriculture, JO#09:- ICARDA is introducing protected agriculture for cash crop production in marginal and water deficit areas of Afghanistan. The project is promoting the adoption of affordable and sustainable protected agricultural systems to produce high value crops, using marginal or otherwise non-productive lands and water more efficiently, by establishing a central demonstration and training site within Kabul and by installing simple greenhouse structures at selected pilot sites with participating farmers.
Grain Postharvest Storage, Milling, Processing and Market Development, JO#28: GIA is providing training opportunities and demonstration sites for grain cleaning, storage and handling of grain, developing community level storage sites, full scale farm demonstration units and small farm demonstration units. Additionally, GIA is working with other RAMP partners to establish a network of refrigerated storage and transport facilities to reduce spoilage rates of fresh produce.
Locust Control for Increased Agricultural Production in Northern Afghanistan, JO#30: - Project Completed. FAO renovated the laboratory of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD) in the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food (MAAHF).
Green Kabul Program, Reforestation, JO#32: - Project Completed. UNOPS procured and distributed approximately 1 million trees throughout Kabul. Its key activities included: planting fruit and forestry trees in various public locations throughout Kabul, including schools, government buildings, parks, roadsides, and the Kabul Green Belt; organizing Kabul Green Week activities, including public events, children's activities, receptions, entertainment, and education; and coordinating an ongoing public information campaign to raise public awareness of environmental issues in Afghanistan.
Grain Postharvest Storage, Milling, Processing and Market Development, JO#28: GIA is providing training opportunities and demonstration sites for grain cleaning, storage and handling of grain, developing community level storage sites, full scale farm demonstration units and small farm demonstration units. Additionally, GIA is working with other RAMP partners to establish a network of refrigerated storage and transport facilities to reduce spoilage rates of fresh produce.

Kandahar
Check Dam Construction, JO#02: - Project Completed. CADG constructed two check dams, Islam Dara II (Ghorak district) and Tangriz (Khakraz district) to store the flow of rainwater runoff, and to recharge aquifers and karezes.
Village-Based Seed Enterprises, JO#07: ICARDA is developing village-based seed enterprises (VBSE) as well as conducting market surveys/needs assessments and providing technical guidance in appropriate machinery and equipment usage, procurement of start-up inputs, and training for virus-free potato seed production, multiplication, storage and marketing.
On-Farm Crop Demonstrations and Best Practices, JO#08: ICARDA is developing demonstration plots in farmer's fields throughout the 5 provinces to facilitate the rapid diffusion and adoption of new technologies, improved and adapted varieties, improved field irrigation management practices, and appropriate crop management.
Agricultural Production, Processing and Market Development, JO# 23: CADG is establishing demonstration farms, contract growing of selected crops, and providing technical assistance and expertise in the areas of agriculture, processing and marketing, application of technologies to crop development, and implementation of drip irrigation plots.
Grain Postharvest Storage, Milling, Processing and Market Development, JO#28: GIA is providing training opportunities and demonstration sites for grain cleaning, storage and handling of grain, developing community level storage sites, full scale farm demonstration units and small farm demonstration units. Additionally, GIA is working with other RAMP partners to establish a network of refrigerated storage and transport facilities to reduce spoilage rates of fresh produce.
Agri-Input Dealer Training and Development, JO# 24: IFDC is training 2,000 agri-input dealers, improving market transparency through analysis and dissemination of market information, develop business linkages between Afghan and regional suppliers of agri-inputs and establish five private sector associations of agri-input dealers.

Grain Postharvest Storage, Milling, Processing and Market Development, JO#28: GIA is providing training opportunities and demonstration sites for grain cleaning, storage and handling of grain, developing community level storage sites, full scale farm demonstration units and small farm demonstration units. Additionally, GIA is working with other RAMP partners to establish a network of refrigerated storage and transport facilities to reduce spoilage rates of fresh produce.
Grape Production Improvement, Agricultural Production, Processing and Market Development, JO#29:- RoP is providing extension services for Afghan grape farmers and training for MAAHF extension agents, developing model farms for best practices, creating market/collection centers, improving grape vine propagation; establishing Farmer Owned Businesses; and promoting commercial sales management to re-establish and develop local, regional, and international markets.
Fil Koh Chute Irrigation Repair, JO#33: Project Completed. GULSAN-Cucurova assessed the damage and repaired the Fil Koh chute in Kandahar province to avoid disruption of irrigation for the South Canal area of the Arghandab irrigation system.

Kunduz
Road Rehabilitation in Kunduz, JO#04: - Project Completed. KRA rehabilitated 24.1 km of secondary roads in Khan Abad district and constructed a 390 m gabion protection wall for the Khan Abad Dam.
Irrigation Rehabilitation in Kunduz, JO#03: - Project Completed. DAI cleaned, widened and de-silted 60 km of irrigation canals in Kunduz.
Village Women's Poultry Production and Market Development, JO#05: FAO is providing training in improved poultry care and production to over 28,000 village women, and is introducing poultry income generating activities to open new markets for the surplus eggs.
Virus-free Potato Seed Production and Market Development, JO#06:- ICARDA and its subcontractors are providing technical guidance in needs assessment, machinery and equipment needs, purchase of start-up inputs, and training for virus-free potato seed production, multiplication, storage and marketing.
Village-Based Seed Enterprises, JO#07: ICARDA is developing village-based seed enterprises (VBSE) as well as conducting market surveys/needs assessments and providing technical guidance in appropriate machinery and equipment usage, procurement of start-up inputs, and training for virus-free potato seed production, multiplication, storage and marketing.
On-Farm Crop Demonstrations and Best Practices, JO#08: ICARDA is developing demonstration plots in farmer's fields throughout the 5 provinces to facilitate the rapid diffusion and adoption of new technologies, improved and adapted varieties, improved field irrigation management practices, and appropriate crop management.
Protected Agriculture, JO#09:- ICARDA is introducing protected agriculture for cash crop production in marginal and water deficit areas of Afghanistan. The project is promoting the adoption of affordable and sustainable protected agricultural systems to produce high value crops, using marginal or otherwise non-productive lands and water more efficiently, by establishing a central demonstration and training site within Kabul and by installing simple greenhouse structures at selected pilot sites with participating farmers.
Direct Seedling Agriculture Project - JO#08B: IAM is examining effectiveness of using John Deere direct seeders for dry land wheat production at a six sites in Kabul and Kunduz provinces.
Reconstruction of Road Infrastructure in Kunduz, JO# 20: PRB rehabilitated 55.9 km of primary and secondary roads in Imam Sahib district.
Agri-Input Dealer Training and Development, JO# 24: IFDC is training 2,000 agri-input dealers, improving market transparency through analysis and dissemination of market information, develop business linkages between Afghan and regional suppliers of agri-inputs and establish five private sector associations of agri-input dealers.
Grain Postharvest Storage, Milling, Processing and Market Development, JO#28: GIA is providing training opportunities and demonstration sites for grain cleaning, storage and handling of grain, developing community level storage sites, full scale farm demonstration units and small farm demonstration units. Additionally, GIA is working with other RAMP partners to establish a network of refrigerated storage and transport facilities to reduce spoilage rates of fresh produce.
Qasim Ali to Sayed Ahmed Road Rehabilitation, JO# 49: KRA has upgraded and widened 7.2 kilometers of the Qasim Ali to Sayed Ahmed tertiary road in Aliabad District of Kunduz Province.
Kunduz Road Construction: Survey and Design, JO# 38: PRB is surveying and designing 25.5 km of roads in Khan Abad and Ali-Abad districts.
Locust Control for Increased Agricultural Production in Northern Afghanistan, JO#30: - Project Completed. In 2005, FAO implemented emergency locust control activities in northern Afghanistan and renovated the laboratory of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD) in the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food (MAAHF). PPQD laboratory is located in Kabul.
Emergency Locust and Sunn pest Control in Northern Afghanistan; Capacity Building of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD), Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry (MAAH), JO#50: Ongoing emergency chemical and mechanical pest control activities throughout Kunduz.

Takhar
<p>Locust Control for Increased Agricultural Production in Northern Afghanistan, JO#30: - Project Completed. In 2005, FAO implemented emergency locust control activities in northern Afghanistan and renovated the laboratory of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD) in the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food (MAAHF). PPQD laboratory is located in Kabul.</p>
Nangarhar
<p>Village Women's Poultry Production and Market Development, JO#05: FAO is providing training in improved poultry care and production to over 28,000 village women, and is introducing poultry income generating activities to open new markets for the surplus eggs.</p>
<p>Virus-free Potato Seed Production and Market Development, JO#06:- ICARDA and its subcontractors are providing technical guidance in needs assessment, machinery and equipment needs, purchase of start-up inputs, and training for virus-free potato seed production, multiplication, storage and marketing.</p>
<p>Village-Based Seed Enterprises, JO#07: ICARDA is developing village-based seed enterprises (VBSE) as well as conducting market surveys/needs assessments and providing technical guidance in appropriate machinery and equipment usage, procurement of start-up inputs, and training for virus-free potato seed production, multiplication, storage and marketing.</p>
<p>On-Farm Crop Demonstrations and Best Practices, JO#08: ICARDA is developing demonstration plots in farmer's fields throughout the 5 provinces to facilitate the rapid diffusion and adoption of new technologies, improved and adapted varieties, improved field irrigation management practices, and appropriate crop management.</p>
<p>Protected Agriculture, JO#09:- ICARDA is introducing protected agriculture for cash crop production in marginal and water deficit areas of Afghanistan. The project is promoting the adoption of affordable and sustainable protected agricultural systems to produce high value crops, using marginal or otherwise non-productive lands and water more efficiently, by establishing a central demonstration and training site within Kabul and by installing simple greenhouse structures at selected pilot sites with participating farmers.</p>
<p>Kanday Road Rehabilitation and Diversion Canal Excavation, JO#11: -Project Completed. MADERA rehabilitated a 300 meter section of the road washed out between Jalalabad and Asadabad, constructed a protection wall and gabion dyke along side the road to reduce erosion, dug a diversion canal to divert part of the Kunar river to lessen the force of the flow on the newly constructed protection wall.</p>
<p>Improving Irrigation Systems & Water Management, JO#18: - Project Completed. : RSSA rehabilitated the hydro technical, protection and division structures at the end point (6 Km) of Nangarhar canal and sub canals 29, 30, and 31. Through this project RSSA rehabilitated 10.3 km of irrigation canals, constructed 2 diversion dams, and rehabilitated 15.5 km of tertiary roads.</p>
<p>Irrigation Rehabilitation in Khewa District of Nangarhar, JO# 21: - Project Completed. STAAR completed rehabilitation of 30 km of canals in Khewa district of Nangarhar province and built canal intakes along the Kunar River at Koti Taran and Shigee. Works were built to protect canals from overland floods.</p>
<p>Grape Production Improvement, Agricultural Production, Processing and Market Development, JO#29:- RoP is providing extension services for Afghan grape farmers and training for MAAHF extension agents, developing model farms for best practices, creating market/collection centers, improving grape vine propagation; establishing Farmer Owned Businesses; and promoting commercial sales management to re-establish and develop local, regional, and international markets. Roots of Peace has assisted Afghanistan increase its exports of fresh fruit by helping local traders enter new markets and expand sales in existing markets in the region. Roots of Peace activities have led to exports to the following markets: India, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and United Arab Emirates (Dubai).</p>
<p>Agricultural Produce Market Centers, JO# 34: Project Completed. RI built small market collection centers (MCCs) at 19 locations in Nangarhar to provide shade for produce gathered from fields at harvest.</p>
<p>Reclaiming Salinized and Waterlogged Farmland in Nangarhar Province - JO# 35: F Hope is clearing trees and vegetation and dredging silt deposits from 114 kilometers of blocked drains of the Kama area and from the NVDA system of Nangarhar Province.</p>
<p>Improving Market Access Through Road Construction, JO# 36: Project Completed. HADF and RI collectively rehabilitated 44.5 km of road in Kama district of Nangarhar province.</p>
<p>Irrigation System Protection, JO#36: RSSA is rehabilitating a 5 km section of sub canal 29 of Nangarhar's Main canal. Additionally, RSSA will rehabilitate 5 km of road that runs parallel to the canal, and construct/fill a 1,300 m river embankment along the road to prevent future erosion from floods.</p>
<p>Road Rehabilitation in Nangarhar, JO#36: ABR is rehabilitating 24.15 km of road in Pachir Wa Agam district of Nangarhar province.</p>
<p>Road Rehabilitation in Nangarhar, JO#36: DCG is rehabilitating 26.8 km of road in Behsood and Shinwa districts of Nangarhar province.</p>
<p>Road Rehabilitation in Nangarhar, JO#38: Project Completed. AfghanAid rehabilitated 5 km of road between Saiphon and Lagarjoi in Nangarhar Province.</p>
<p>Road Rehabilitation in Nangarhar, JO#38: AACC is rehabilitating 21.3 km of road in Sherzad and Khogiani districts of Nangarhar province.</p>

Road Rehabilitation in Nangarhar, JO#38: HADF is rehabilitating 13 km of road in Kama district of Nangarhar province.
Nangarhar Emergency Wheat Seed Distribution, JO#48: In response to an emergency request from the Governor of Nangarhar, ICARDA, RI, IFDC, IFHope, RSSA, and STAAR implemented a quick impact wheat seed distribution program in 23 districts of the province.

Parwan
Shamali Plains Road and Canal Rehabilitation, JO#10: - Project Completed. ACTED has rehabilitated 25.6 km of secondary roads and de-silted and widened 20 kms of the Charikar canal in Shamali Plains region.
Shamali Plains Dam Reconstruction, JO#15: - Project Completed. RAFA has completed the design and reconstruction of three water diversion dams along the Ghorband River.
Rehabilitation of Irrigation Systems in Parwan, JO#16: RAFA is constructing five water diversion dams on the Salang/Ghorband river to provide water to five canals irrigating a total of 28,670 ha of farmland.
Village Women's Poultry Production and Market Development, JO#05: FAO is providing training in improved poultry care and production to over 28,000 village women, and is introducing poultry income generating activities to open new markets for the surplus eggs.
Virus-free Potato Seed Production and Market Development, JO#06:- ICARDA and its subcontractors are providing technical guidance in needs assessment, machinery and equipment needs, purchase of start-up inputs, and training for virus-free potato seed production, multiplication, storage and marketing.
Village-Based Seed Enterprises, JO#07: ICARDA is developing village-based seed enterprises (VBSE) as well as conducting market surveys/needs assessments and providing technical guidance in appropriate machinery and equipment usage, procurement of start-up inputs, and training for virus-free potato seed production, multiplication, storage and marketing.
On-Farm Crop Demonstrations and Best Practices, JO#08: ICARDA is developing demonstration plots in farmer's fields throughout the 5 provinces to facilitate the rapid diffusion and adoption of new technologies, improved and adapted varieties, improved field irrigation management practices, and appropriate crop management.
Protected Agriculture, JO#09:- ICARDA is introducing protected agriculture for cash crop production in marginal and water deficit areas of Afghanistan. The project is promoting the adoption of affordable and sustainable protected agricultural systems to produce high value crops, using marginal or otherwise non-productive lands and water more efficiently, by establishing a central demonstration and training site within Kabul and by installing simple greenhouse structures at selected pilot sites with participating farmers.
Agri-Input Dealer Training and Development, JO# 24: IFDC is training 2,000 agri-input dealers, improving market transparency through analysis and dissemination of market information, develop business linkages between Afghan and regional suppliers of agri-inputs and establish five private sector associations of agri-input dealers.
Dried Vegetable Production, Processing and Market Development, JO#26: - DWC is developing dried vegetable agribusiness that includes the construction of a 6,200 square foot dehydration factory to be used for cleaning, dicing, and drying machinery, a warehouse, a small test laboratory, a classroom for the research farm and training opportunities, and a 70 meter borehole to provide clean water for washing produce and irrigating the research farm.
Grain Postharvest Storage, Milling, Processing and Market Development, JO#28: GIA is providing training opportunities and demonstration sites for grain cleaning, storage and handling of grain, developing community level storage sites, full scale farm demonstration units and small farm demonstration units. Additionally, GIA is working with other RAMP partners to establish a network of refrigerated storage and transport facilities to reduce spoilage rates of fresh produce.
Grape Production Improvement, Agricultural Production, Processing and Market Development, JO#29:- RoP is providing extension services for Afghan grape farmers and training for MAAHF extension agents, developing model farms for best practices, creating market/collection centers, improving grape vine propagation; establishing Farmer Owned Businesses; and promoting commercial sales management to re-establish and develop local, regional, and international markets. Roots of Peace has assisted Afghanistan increase its exports of fresh fruit by helping local traders enter new markets and expand sales in existing markets in the region. Roots of Peace activities have led to exports to the following markets: India, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and United Arab Emirates (Dubai).

Wardak

Bridge Construction in Aga Khil, JO#14- Project Completed. AREA reconstructed the bridge (24 meters long, 3 meters high with 42 culverts) near Aga Khil in Wardak which connected Ghazni-Hazarajat market centers. Also, 42 km of road has been rehabilitated including 42 washes and culverts.

National

Microfinance Investment and Support Facility Afghanistan, JO#01:- Project Completed. This was a \$5 million grant to the Ministry of Reconstruction and Rural Development (MRRD) that channeled funds to the Microfinance Investment and Support Facility Afghanistan (MISFA) - an umbrella fund that nationally supports microfinance institutions (MFIs) offering a range of financial services to those unable to access reliable sources of loan capital. MISFA financed an array of institutions that implemented an assortment of microfinance approaches in order to test their applicability in Afghanistan. This is a World Bank supported activity.

Livestock Health, Production and Marketing Improvement, JO#13: DCA is creating a national network of private veterinary field units in all 380 districts of Afghanistan. The immediate goal of the project is to prevent further deterioration of the animal health services system already in place and to arrange for immediate vaccination and preventive treatment campaigns. The mid-term goal of the project, with a focus on business development and strengthening the organizational structure, is to enable the VFU-system to grow towards an independent, self-supporting system of provision of animal health services at village level. The longer term goal of the project is to improve livelihoods and food security in project areas by contributing to the improved health and productive capacity of local livestock

The Afghan Renewal Fund (The Fund), JO# 39: The purpose of this Grant is to fund a contribution to the Afghanistan Renewal Fund, a venture capital fund to be managed by Acap Partners. The Fund will create a finance delivery mechanism to fulfill the unmet financing needs of small and medium enterprises (SMEs). Primarily, the investments will be made in the major cities of Kabul, Hirat, Mazar-i-Sharif and Jalalabad.

The Afghanistan International Bank (AIB), Small and Medium Enterprise Loans, JO#40: - This revolving credit facility through AIB undertakes to extend medium and large sized loans in the range of \$50,000 to \$500,000 to agri-enterprises. AIB's credit facility is available nationwide and to-date loans have been approved for entrepreneurs located in Kabul, Kunduz, Faryab, Hirat and Baghlan.

Business Mentoring Pilot Project, JO# 41: - Project Completed. UNDP's Business Mentoring Program will assist with a variety of activities, including designing an efficient program with a revenue stream; profiling the agribusiness' current depth of skills and needs for additional capacity; and identifying appropriate experts to deliver specific technical assistance. The program will deepen enterprise skills to improve the business' ability to comply with the conditions of the loan/lease.

Business Development Services, JO#41: - Flag International is providing Business Development Services (BDS) to Afghan agribusinesses with the goal of supporting their access to credit in support of RAMP's ongoing projects. The Subcontractor will target small and medium sized agribusinesses along the value chain and offer BDS services to Afghan agribusiness to access loans, leases, equity and post-finance assistance in order to grow their businesses.

The Afghanistan Finance Company (AFC), JO#42: - The AFC will be a leasing credit delivery mechanism to fulfill the unmet financing needs of small and medium enterprises (SMEs), specifically in the agricultural sector. The primary aim will be to finance SME activities along the value chains that are receiving support through RAMP funded projects. Primarily, the financing will be in the major cities of Kabul, Hirat, Mazar-i-Sharif, Kunduz and Jalalabad.

International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC), Agriculture Input Supply Program - JO#52: - IFDC procured and coordinated the distribution of 500,000 technical packages of improved wheat, potato, and onion along with vouchers redeemable for fertilizer, subject to repayment.

Agriculture Sector Training in Afghanistan, JO#52: - IALC is providing education on the sustainable management and restoration of arid and semi-arid lands in Afghanistan by funding post-graduate Masters degree programs for 10 Afghan agriculturalists through the University of Peshawar, Pakistan.

Agri-Input Dealer Training and Development, JO# 24: IFDC is training 2,000 agri-input dealers, improving market transparency through analysis and dissemination of market information, develop business linkages between Afghan and regional suppliers of agri-inputs and establish five private sector associations of agri-input dealers.

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PROJECT COMPLETED

Rural Financial Services Microfinance Investment Support Facility for Afghanistan (MISFA) Life of Project: December 18, 2003 - August 31, 2005 Provinces: National				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#1-0003-MISFA	December 18, 2003	Frances Toomey	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$5,000,000	\$529,216	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$0
Project Description: This was a \$5 million grant to the Ministry of Reconstruction and Rural Development (MRRD) that channeled funds to the Microfinance Investment and Support Facility Afghanistan (MISFA) - an umbrella fund that nationally supports microfinance institutions (MFIs) offering a range of financial services to those unable to access reliable sources of loan capital or saving facilities. MISFA financed an array of institutions that implemented an assortment of microfinance approaches in order to test their applicability in Afghanistan. This is a World Bank supported activity.				

Project Accomplishments

RAMP's grant to MISFA concluded on August 31, 2005 and contributed \$4,002,009 in loan capital a to the following MFIs: Ariana Financial Services Group/Mercy Corps, BRAC, CHF, AKDN, Women for Women and FINCA, CARE, WOCCU, Madera, Acted, Parwaz and DACAAR. Additionally, the grant directed technical assistance to ACTED and MADERA to promote agricultural lending mechanisms in their development portfolio. Collectively, these MFIs reached beneficiaries in 17 provinces throughout Afghanistan: Kabul, Takhar, Kunduz, Bamyan, Ghazni, Baghlan, Badakshan, Hirat, Balkh, Parwan, Nangarhar, Laghman, Kunar, Kapisa, Samangan, Jawsjan and Sar-i-Pul.

With RAMP funding, these institutions disbursed 28,118 loans to micro-entrepreneurs engaged in agricultural activities. Project beneficiaries borrowed loans to engage in activities focused on: agri-input supply (i.e. improved seed and fertilizer varieties), crop and livestock production, timber product market systems, value-added processing, wholesaling, marketing, trade and export.

MISFA achieved excellent repayment results – maintaining an average portfolio at risk less than 90 days under 2%. The project was additionally successful in introducing new loan products, previously unavailable in Afghanistan. These products included micro-leasing of small-scale farming and processing equipment, services targeting agrarian Kuchi nomads and agricultural traders, and the refinancing of loans for farmers in need of opium production debt relief. MISFA was extremely effective in promoting the services of its partnering MFIs and increasing the public awareness of microfinance in general through the dissemination of English, Dari and Pashto newsletters and posters.



Women for Women's Loan Officer with two of her clients in Sheena-Bagrami

Project Manager Comments

When MISFA first began operations in Afghanistan in July 2003, microfinance was a new financial concept for the country. As such, it took some months for the MFIs to build their organizations, train staff and introduce and promote lending methodology to their targeted borrowers. Once embraced by their intended beneficiaries, MFIs demonstrated new and previously unavailable resources to micro-entrepreneurs who are now able to borrow funds, expand their businesses, and build credit history – which allows them apply for larger loans. In post-conflict regions, access to micro-finance services can be the first step for an entrepreneur to grow their business, contribute to the growth of local economies, and provide better lives for their families.

Through extensive cooperation with RAMP and its partner institutions, MISFA was able to meet and exceed all of its contractual targets, and significantly contributed to the operational sustainability and growth of micro-finance industry throughout Afghanistan.

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PROJECT COMPLETED

Kandahar Check Dams Central Asia Development Group (CADG) Life of Project: October 15, 2003 to August 15, 2004 Province: Kandahar				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#2-0002-CADG	October 15, 2003	James Huddleston	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$130,272	\$0	\$130,272	\$0	\$0
Project Description: CADG constructed two check dams, Islam Dara II (Ghorak district) and Tangriz (Khakraz district) in Kandahar province, to store the flow of rainwater runoff, and to recharge aquifers and karezes.				

Project Accomplishments

By July 2004, CADG had completed its work on the, Islam Dara II and Tangriz check dams in Ghorak and Khakraz districts of Kandahar, feeding approximately six karez systems in the region.

Years of drought in southern Afghanistan led to the rapid depletion of underground water resources, which fed the traditional karez irrigation systems in most villages unable to access more recently constructed irrigation systems. During this period, the farmland of many villages throughout Kandahar province completely dried-up, rendering it unproductive. During the winter of 2002 and spring of 2003, the region experienced sufficient rains to cultivate winter crops - yet by the early summer of 2003, the water resources had disappeared, as there were no existing structures in the district areas to capture and store the scarce rainwater.

Check-dams constructed by CADG in Ghorak and Kharaz districts harvest rainwater and divert it towards underground aquifers feeding the target villages, recharging their karezes and providing residents with increased ability to revitalize their agricultural production.

Check Dam Construction	Province	District	Dams Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Islam Dara II	Kandahar	Ghorak	1	1	100%
Tangriz	Kandahar	Khakraz	1	1	100%
Total:			2	2	100%



Tangriz Check Dam in Khakraz district, Kandahar province constructed by CADG through RAMP.

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PROJECT COMPLETED

Irrigation Rehabilitation for the Char Dara, Bala Doori and Darqad Systems

Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI)
Life of Project : October 21, 2003 to July 15, 2005
Provinces: Kunduz, Baghlan, Hilmand

Job Order No.	Date of Award	Project Manager	USAID CTO	USAID CO
JO#3-0002-DAI	October 21, 2003	Mhd. Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
Ceiling Price	Quarter Expenditures	Cumulative Expenditures	Accruals	Balance
\$3,779,028	\$0	\$3,487,933.13	\$29,361	\$261,734
Project Description: DAI has rehabilitated/cleaned 235 km of canals and drains throughout Kunduz (60 km), Baghlan (51) and Hilmand provinces and rehabilitated 34.9 km of farm-to-market roads in Baghlan province.				

Project Accomplishments

In Kunduz, Baghlan, and Hilmand provinces, DAI rehabilitated the canals of four rural irrigation systems and one drainage system. DAI's activities included de-silting and widening irrigation canals, and repairing/replacing water intakes, canal banks, protection walls, turnouts, and sluice gates. The project's provision of a reliable, timely supply of water resulted in substantially increased crop yields, estimated by RAMP to be more than double those of previous seasons. Also through this Job Order, DAI rehabilitated a total of 34.9 km of farm-to-market roads.



Local farmers working to de-silt the Darqad canal

Canal / Drain Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km of Canals / Drains Rehabilitated		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Chardara Canal	Kunduz	Chahar Dara	60	60	100%
Darqad Canal	Baghlan	Puli Khumri	21	21	100%
Bala Doori Canal	Baghlan	Puli Khumri	30	30	100%
Marja Drainage System	Hilmand	Naway I Barakzai and Marja	109	109	100%
Boghra Canal	Hilmand	Marja	15	15	100%
Total:			235	235	100%
Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km of Roads Rehabilitated		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Jue Naw Road	Baghlan	Puli Khumri	12.2	12.2	100%
Darqad Road	Baghlan	Puli Khumri	7.8	7.8	100%
Mongalha Road.	Baghlan	Puli Khumri and Dahana-I-Ghori	14.9	14.9	100%
Total:			34.9	34.9	100%

Project Manager Comments:

The 34.5 kilometers of roads constructed by DAI has opened an important production area to markets of the Baghlan area. The Jui Naw, Darqad and Mangalha roads were dedicated and accepted for maintenance by the Governor of the province and the village elders of the area 31 August 2004. These roads together with the three irrigation projects were the first investment projects undertaken in this area after time lapse of almost 20 years. The roads provide service to a population of 92,804; of who 59,940 reside in the area of the road corridor and the remaining 32,900 reside outside the catchment area, but depend on the road for services. These roads have provided the fundamental base for the socio-economic transformation of the population, and are an indicator of peace, security, prosperity and a better future for the area.

The Governor of Baghlan, Engineer Omar, commented that "I have been on field visits to areas with no water and now there will be plenty of water. When the people see me, they are very happy. I am proud of the support that I have given this project. If I balance these activities with those of other NGO's and the aid community, these projects are more important than all of them put together....I hope that this is not the end of your work in Baghlan, but just the start."



Engineers measure a stump indicating the level of silt that has been removed from Bala Doori canal



Laborers digging out the Bala Doori canal as it passes under a road



The Darqad canal intake before work began in August 2003



During construction on the Darqad canal intake in January 2004

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PROJECT COMPLETED

Kunduz Road and Khan Abad Irrigation System Rehabilitation Kunduz Reconstruction Agency (KRA) Life of Project: October 10, 2003 to May 31, 2005 Province: Kunduz				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#4-0002-KRA	October 10, 2003	Saroj Basnyet	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$508,671	\$0	\$508,671	\$0	\$0
Project Description: KRA rehabilitated 24.1 km of secondary roads in Khan Abad district of Kunduz province, and constructed a 390 m gabion protection wall for the Khan Abad Dam Irrigation System.				

Project Accomplishments

On February 21, 2005, KRA held a dedication ceremony for the two road corridors it rehabilitated and dam protection wall it constructed in the Khan Abad district of Kunduz province.

Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km of Road Rehabilitated		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Tarnab - Boin Road	Kunduz	Khan Abad	11.5	11.5	100%
Nik Pai - Jangal Bashi Road	Kunduz	Khan Abad	12.6	12.6	100%
Total:			24.1	24.1	100%
Protection Wall Construction	Province	District	Meters of Wall Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Dam protection wall construction	Kunduz	Khan Abad	390	390	100%
Total:			390	390	100%

The roads have provided the fundamental base for the socio-economic transformation of 32,773 people, who now have improved access to regional market centers. The recently protected Khan Abad Dam irrigation system supplies water to 34,000 hectares of farmland, reaching 90,000 families.

The following photos illustrate how significantly KRA has rehabilitated roads in Kunduz. As a result of these improvements, more vehicles are traveling on the roads, travel time has decreased, and savings in transport costs of commodities has increased by about thirty per cent in spite of the fact that fuel prices have at the same time increased by about fifty per cent. These benefits have generated an increase in the production of melon and water melon by about 35% due to growing urban demands and reduction in wastage during transport to urban markets.



Before: 11.5 km mark of the Nik Pai – Jangal Bashi road segment, February 2004.



After: 11.5 km mark of the Nik Pai – Jangal Bashi road segment, February 2005.



Before: 13 km mark of the Nik Pai – Jangal Bashi road segment, February 2004.



After: 13 km mark of the Nik Pai – Jangal Bashi road segment, February 2005.

Project Manager Comments

Now the greatest challenge facing the Shuras, communities who are benefiting from these roads and the Government is preserve the assets that have been rehabilitated. The challenge is to maintain these roads so that these benefits become sustainable for future generations.

Quarterly Report

Q4 FY05

December 31, 2005

Development of Rural Poultry Production Activity
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
Life of Project: November 3, 2003 – June 30, 2006
Provinces: Nangarhar, Kunduz, Baghlan, Parwan, Ghazni, Bamyan, Hirat

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#5-0004-FAO	November 3, 2003	Daad Mohammad Amir	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$3,599,239	\$400,000	\$2,289,806	\$0	\$1,309,434

Project Description: FAO is providing training in improved poultry care and production to over 28,000 village women, and is introducing poultry income generating activities to open new markets for the surplus eggs.

Accomplishments this Quarter

FAO continued its training of women in poultry production and marketing, as well as establishing Village Poultry Producer groups, and vaccinating birds in 519 villages in seven provinces. The following table outlines FAO's accomplishments in specific activities over the past quarter.

Q4 2005 Activities	Province							Total
	Parwan	Nangarhar	Kunduz	Baghlan	Ghazni	Bamyan	Hirat	
# selected women trained/new	12					750	1,700	2,462
# interested women trained/new	58		424	197	70		146	895
# pullets distributed	20,943	21,750	14,612	11,545	7,810			76,660
Amount of poultry feed distributed/Kg	14,200	34,800	40,008	28,920	12,144			130,072
# Village Poultry Producer Groups (PPG) established	12	109	13	17				151
# visits made by the Village Group Leaders(VGLs) to the producers	8,032	1,347	9,141	12,536	5,291			36,347
# chicken coops constructed	837	2,466	1,182	1,206				5,691
# birds vaccinated	86,313	69,331	10,5978	64,100	55,522			381,244
# birds treated	15,922	2,866	3,787	41,764	23,227			87,566
Amount of feed(kg) sold by VGLs	40,236	10,042	26,351	14,256	14,441			105,326
# Eggs marketed by VGLs	32,029	14,599	134,405	6,127				187,160

Training

Over the past quarter, FAO carried out the following training-related activities:

- Provided training to 2,462 selected women and 895 interested women in Kunduz, Parwan, Baghlan, Ghazni, Nangarhar, Bamyan and Hirat provinces;
- Established 151 new Poultry Producer Groups (PPGs), each comprising 50 women;
- Facilitated 145 classes (in-service training) to upgrade the technical knowledge of women trainers/technicians at the National Professional Project Personnel in regional centers of Kabul, Kunduz, Jalalabad and Hirat;
- Organized 3,189 technical classes for the selected village women in Nangarhar, Kunduz and Parwan Province, and provided ongoing technical assistance and input supplies to previously established groups of trainees;
- Trained 19 new trainers for further extension work with village women;

Distribution of Materials and Vaccinations

FAO distributed the following items to beneficiaries in Jalalabad, Kunduz, Ghazni, Baghlan and Nangarhar. Women beneficiaries use these inputs to establish small-scale poultry production enterprises.

- 76,660 two-month old pullets
- 4,855 feeders
- 6,518 drinkers (water troughs)

- 130,072 kg of poultry ration, and
- 8,364 meters of wire mesh

Poultry Producer Group Activities

The PPGs established by FAO have collectively carried out the following activities:

- Vaccinated 381,244 chickens against Newcastle's Disease
- Treated 87,566 chickens with diseases and parasites
- Sold 105,326 metric tons of balanced poultry feed
- Constructed chicken coops for 5,691 selected families
- Marketed more than 187,160 eggs produced by trained families the Village Leader Groups (VLG).



Extension Activities

- FAO organized 90 technical meetings of the technical staff to exchange experiences and to solve field problems. The PPGs organized 643 meetings in which more than 14,579 village women participated. They discussed their common concerns regarding vaccinations, revolving funds, and other poultry services and explored possible mitigating actions.
- Village Group Leaders made 36,347 visits to the houses of other trained families and provided technical assistance.

Looking Ahead

Over the first quarter of 2006, FAO will carry out the following activities:

- Continue to provide ongoing training to approximately 3,543 selected women beneficiaries in villages of Parwan, Kunduz and Nangarhar Provinces. FAO estimates that about 600 interested village women will also participate;
- Vaccinate more than 210,000 birds by the Village Group Leaders;
- Provide treatment/health service delivery by the Village Group Leaders for 6,000 birds;
- Sell 115,000 kg feed by the Village Group Leaders;
- Organize 36 technical meetings in Parwan, Kunduz and Nangarhar, Bamyān, and Hirat provinces for the women trainers;
- Organize 36 technical classes for the women technicians/trainers to upgrade their working knowledge in Parwan, Kunduz and Nangarhar Provinces;
- Organize 54 meetings for the Village Group Leaders;
- Train 38 new poultry trainers in each target province.

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken

FAO experienced no major difficulties in carrying out its activities over the past quarter. For security reasons, UN-FAO staff members must travel with two UN cars and two armed escorts when visiting Ghazni. Logistically, this has made it difficult to conduct some site inspections, but the project remains active in all targeted provinces.

Project Manager Comments

FAO has sped-up the implementation of project activities and the project is on target to meet its deliverables. FAO effectively expanded project activities to Hirat and Bamyān, and is one track to have additional PPGs established and women trained in poultry production by the project's completion in June 2006.

Quarterly Report

Q4 FY05

December 31, 2005

Virus-free Potato Seed Production and Market Development

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

Period of Performance: November 10, 2003 - June 30, 2006

Provinces: Parwan, Ghazni, Nangarhar, Hilmand, Kunduz

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#6-0004-ICARDA	November 10, 2003	Abdul Qahar Samin	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$695,645	\$90,934	\$501,068	\$138,672	\$194,577

Project Description: ICARDA and its subcontractors are providing technical guidance in needs assessment, machinery and equipment needs, purchase of start-up inputs, and training for virus-free potato seed production, multiplication, storage and marketing.

Accomplishments this Quarter

Nationwide, ICARDA achieved the following results over the last quarter of 2005. Individual accomplishments within each target province are detailed below.

- Seed producer groups in produced 1553 mt of high quality, clean seed potato of Kufri Chandramukhi (KCM) and Desire varieties. ICARDA stores the clean potato seed in project-constructed potato storage units in Ghazni, Parwan, and Nangarhar.
- As a result of introducing clean seed potato in Hilmand and Kunduz as a late fall crop, 319 mt of KCM and Desire potatoes, an alternative crop to poppy, were produced by farmers.
- Mr. Om Prakash, Director of the tissue culture laboratory at the Energy Research Institute (TERI), New Delhi (India) continued the hands-on training course on Tissue Culture and Micro-Propagation Techniques in Kabul from October 5 – 20, 2005. ICARDA trained five participants from the MAAHF on different aspects of potato tissue culture, micro-propagation, and mini-tuber production. Mr. Om Prakash also initiated the work on the production of mini-tubers of improved potato varieties (KCM, Desire, K.Badash, and K.Phukraj) at the tissue culture laboratory, Badam Bagh, Kabul
- ICRADA trained 200 members of seed producer groups, project site coordinators, local traders, and NGO personnel and MAAHF staff agents on different aspects of seed potato marketing in Parwan, Ghazni, and Nangarhar.
- As part of the project's 'Training of Trainers' component, ICRADA trained 657 extension agents and staff and 262 farmers and extension agents on Integrated Crop Management and Integrated Disease Management techniques, respectively. IRARDA expects that these trainers will then transfer knowledge to 10 farmers in each in their respective communities,



ICARDA and RAMP monitoring team inspecting potato fields.



Potato seed marketing training course in Jalalabad, Nangahar

Ghazni Province

- ICARDA conducted a two-day training course on seed potato marketing in October for 40 farmers extension agents, MAAHF staff, and traders from Ghazni, Hilmand, and Nangarhar

Nangarhar Province

- ICARDA conducted a two-day training course on seed potato marketing in December for 51 farmers, extension agents, MAAHF staff, and traders.
- Two seed potato growers attended a seed marketing training at Ghazni.
- Producers marketed their clean seed potato to 34 farmers who planted the seed for seed multiplication on 68 hectares of land.
- ICARDA planted 17 clean seed potato demonstration plots and 30.5 hectares for clean seed multiplication.

Hilmand Province

- Seed producer groups produced 109 mt of KCM and Desire potatoes on hectares of land.
- Four farmers from Nawa, Grishk, Lashkargar Center, and Nad-i-Ali Districts attended the seed potato marketing training held in Ghazni
- ICARDA completed construction of five country stores (two at Grishk, one at Nawa, and one each at Bolan and Garmseer Districts).

Kunduz Province

- Seed producer groups produced 210 mt of KCM and Desire potatoes on 12.5 hectares
- Project technicians assisted ICARDA's Village Based Seed Enterprises (VBSEs) in establishing market linkages with the clean seed potato producers and those involved with clean seed potato storage in Ghazni. The VBSEs were interested in purchasing 200 mt of seed potato to be sold to farmers in Kunduz.
- ICARDA established 14 demonstration plots using clean seed potatoes were in six target districts.

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken

- ICARDA organized a trip of VBSE members to meet potato farmers in Ghazni. However the sale of the seed potato was not finalized due to the Ghazni farmers asking relatively high prices for their seed as compared to seed potato prices in Kunduz. The project team tried to convince the VBSE members that the quality of seed is much better in Ghazni because it is virus free and expected to yield about 30% more potatoes. ICARDA does anticipate further collaboration among its RAMP projects, but negotiations have only recently begun.

Looking Forward

- Tissue culture laboratory technicians at Badam Bagh will continue micro-propagation and mini-tuber production
- ICARDA will procure clean seed potato recently produced in warmer provinces in the fall for next season's planting. The seed will be stored in recently constructed country stores.
- Many potato stores will have shelving retro-fitted to allow for more potatoes to be stored successfully.
- ICARDA will construct up to 16 more potato stores in its target provinces.
- ICARDA will provide training to clean seed potato producers on seed potato marketing and promotion in order for them to understand and manage the marketing opportunities available to them now they are producing a superior seed.

Project Manager Comments

- ICARDA needs to provide more accurate data on potato yields from the fall season.
- Over the next quarter, ICARDA must focus most of their efforts on the marketing and promotion of seed potatoes.
- ICARDA needs to improve the design and the procedures for storing and stacking the bags of seed in the seed storage units.
- The supply of clean seed potato in the spring needs to be properly inventoried and prospective buyers of the seed potato informed how much is available.
- ICARDA should establish a viable marketing plan for the fall production of clean seed potato so that farmers get higher prices for the clean seed potato they are producing.

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Q4 FY05

December 31, 2005

Village-Based Seed Enterprises Program
International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)
Life of Project: November 10, 2003 – June 30, 2006
Provinces: Parwan, Ghazni, Nangarhar, Hilmand, Kunduz

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#7-0004-ICARDA	November 10, 2003	M. Alem Alemi	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$1,448,635	\$210,373	\$1,404,991	\$282,437	\$43,644

Project Description: ICARDA is developing village-based seed enterprises (VBSE) as well as conducting market surveys, needs assessment, monitoring and evaluation. Technical assistance will be provided to selected entrepreneurs on appropriate machinery, equipment, storage facilities, start-up inputs, and business management.

Accomplishments this Quarter

Nationwide, ICARDA achieved the following results over the last quarter of 2005. Individual accomplishments within each target province are detailed below

- VBSEs in Bolan and Nad-i-Ali Districts in Hilmand sold 220 mt to IFDC at the rate of \$350 per mt. Archi, Aliabad and Chardera VBSEs in Kunduz sold 340 mt of seed wheat to IFDC for \$420 per mt. Four VBSEs in Nangarhar sold 426 mt of seed wheat for an average price of \$132 per mt.
- Five seed cleaners arrived to Kabul for those VBSEs that had not received a cleaner yet. ICARDA previously distributed 15 seed cleaners and generators to VBSEs. The seed cleaners were used actively by the association members for cleaning seed of improved varieties of wheat. VBSEs encouraged neighboring farmers to view the seed cleaners in operation.
- ICARDA established 21 new VBSEs: 3 in Parwan, 3 in Ghazni, 5 in Nangarhar, 4 in Hilmand, and 6 in Kunduz.
- ICARDA purchased two tractors for Bolan and Nad-i-Ali VBSEs of Hilmand Province, with 50% contribution from the members. Arrangement was made by ICARDA for the purchase of 13 more tractors from Massey Ferguson Company of Milat tractors in Pakistan for the VBSEs not having tractors for which 25-30% will be the contribution of the members.
- ICARDA conducted a seed demand assessment within its target provinces.
- In each target province, ICARDA assisted VBSE members in properly maintaining their 'Record Books' detailing business activities. ICARDA provided additional assistance to VBSE members in implementing viable business plans.



VBSE members using seed cleaning machine in Nad-i-Ali, Hilmand.

Parwan

- Tested samples of seed wheat of Solh-2002, which is a new disease resistant and lodging resistant wheat variety introduced by ICARDA to its VBSEs in 2005, and Gul-96 varieties for the germination rate, which was 98%.
- Provided 4.9 mt of cleaned and treated seed wheat of Solh-2000 and Gul-96 to Bagram, Jabaluseraj and Tutumdara VBSEs.
- Trained VBSE members in field preparation and advised them on using proper seed and fertilizers rates.
- An NGO, NPO/RRAA, distributed 52 mt of seed wheat that was purchased from three VBSEs to 1400 different farmers of Bagram District.

Ghazni

- Negotiations continued with CNFA and PRT for securing a grant for the purchase of agricultural machinery for the third VBSE in Ghazni. Two VBSEs in Ghazni have already received a grant of \$16000 and have purchased two tractors and threshers for activities under this job order.
- ICARDA's Regional Coordinator in Ghazni attended a training course on Seed Enterprise Development and Management held Syria from November 13-15, 2005.

Nangarhar

- Completed site selection and sowing for wheat seed multiplication by the five VBSEs. Handed over one seed cleaner and one electric generator to each of the four VBSEs in Kama, Khewa, Surkhud and Behsood Districts.
- Due to susceptibility to rust of Roshan-96 and Amu-99 wheat varieties, ICARDA provided Lalmi-2 and Mazar-99 to the five VBSEs and to the selected growers on credit for replacing the earlier varieties.
- Four VBSEs sold a total of 426 mt of seed wheat at an average of \$132 per mt.
- Members of Kama VBSE trained eight farmers from Kama, Khewa, Surkhud and Behsud in using seed cleaners (cleaning and treating) while cleaning their own seed
- VBSEs harvested seed multiplication plots of paddy-rice.



VBSE members using newly acquired tractor

Hilmand

- Bolan and Nad-i-Ali VBSEs sold 100 mt and 120 mt, respectively of seed wheat (Amu-99 and Roshan-96) to IFDC at \$350/mt
- VBSEs effectively used the seed cleaners to clean 220 MT of seed using the seed cleaners provided by the project. So far they have just cleaned the seeds from members who were paying for labor, fuel, and maintenance of the seed cleaner.
- Project provided 50% of the cost of one tractor and accessories to Nad-i-Ali and Nawa VBSEs on credit

Kunduz

- VBSEs of Archi, Ali Abad, and Chardara collectively sold 340 mt of wheat seed for \$ 420/mt to IFDC. The seed wheat was cleaned using the seed cleaners provided by the project to the VBSEs. Three VBSE members were trained in using seed cleaners
- Members of VBSEs attended training courses facilitated by RAMP implementing partner GIA in seed storage and handling.

Looking Ahead

- During the next quarter, ICARDA needs to ensure the VBSEs get paid for the cleaning, storage, and marketing services they render. Each VBSE must establish charges for these services and the By-Laws should reflect the policy of the VBSE. The By-Laws should also reflect the VBSE's policy on a check-off, that is, where a percentage of the revenue from the sales of the seed goes to the VBSE for its operating budget.
- ICARDA will continue to assist each VBSE in implementing activities of their business plans in a timely manner, ensure they are recording all seed multiplication plot yields, amount of seed sold and cash received from the sale, amount of seed stored, and amount of seed used for own farming.
- ICARDA will distribute and install five new seed cleaners at the VBSEs that have not received the cleaners yet, and provide related technical assistance and training for this machinery.
- ICARDA will report results of the post-harvest and seed demand survey it conducted during the 4th quarter of 2005.

- ICARDA will remain in close contact with Mercy Corps, the PRTs, IFDC, banks, and other credit/grant sources to explore the possibility of getting grant/credit for equipment for 19 VBSEs in four target provinces (2 VBSEs in Ghazni already have equipment).

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken

- VBSEs have not established clear policies on charging for the services provided by the VBSEs. ICARDA needs to provide training and technical assistance to VBSEs to standardize prices for their services.
- VBSEs members are not aware of how a private seed growing company should operate. ICARDA needs to provide representatives of the VBSEs the opportunity to see how private seed companies operate in other countries, such as India
- The security situation in Hilmand remained serious. As a result, ICARDA's provincial, technical team has had to maintain a low profile. Although many of the international agencies have withdrawn their personnel from Hilmand, ICARDA is maintaining its project activities while taking the necessary precautions in its movements.

Project Manager Comments

- ICARDA should expedite the purchase of tractors/accessories for the VBSEs that are ready to contribute their percentages to the procurement.
- ICARDA should assist the members of the VBSEs to implement activities in their newly established business plans, ensure all enterprise By-Laws are appropriately followed, and all business records are properly maintained.
- ICARDA should assist the VBSEs in legalizing the VBSEs for sustainability and in transforming them into cohesive business organizations.
- For sustainability of the project, ICARDA should guide the VBSEs on appropriate charges for seed cleaning, storing in the warehouse and tractor, seed cleaning services for members and non-members and record the income as common fund for running and expanding the VBSEs

Quarterly Report

Q4 FY05

December 31, 2005

Crop Demonstration Best Practices Project
International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)
Life of Project: November 10, 2003 – June 30, 2006
Provinces: Parwan, Ghazni, Nangarhar, Hilmand, Kunduz

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager Contact</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#8A-0004-ICARDA	November 10, 2003	Abdul Qahar Samin	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$1,678,861	\$202,102	\$1,243,936	\$141,921	\$434,925

Project Description: ICARDA is developing demonstration plots in farmer's fields throughout the 5 provinces to facilitate the rapid diffusion and adoption of new technologies, improved and adapted varieties, improved field irrigation management practices, and appropriate crop management.

Accomplishments this Quarter

Demonstration yields were consistently higher than the traditional yields in adjacent fields. During this quarter, project extension agents contacted 17,000 farmers. 12,284 of these farmers visited the ICARDA crop demonstrations, 799 farmers participated in training programs, and 94 farmers attended a field day on improved rice production.

One-hundred sixty-one wheat demonstrations were planted in the five provinces with Roshan-96, Amu-99, Mazar-99, Lalmi-2, or Sohl-2000, a new variety to be demonstrated in the project. All of the demos were placed with new farmers in new villages. Two varieties of wheat were demonstrated on each demonstration. For those demonstrations that planted two seeding rates, the seeding rates were 125 kg/hectare and 175 kg/hectare.

The following table compares the average metric tons per hectare produced (by specific crop) on ICARDA's demonstration farms with the average metric tons per hectare produced on traditional farms in the same province. The table also presents the value of the increased yield on the demo farms in \$US. Increased crop yields on demonstration farms were most significant for potato, tomato and onion production in Kunduz.

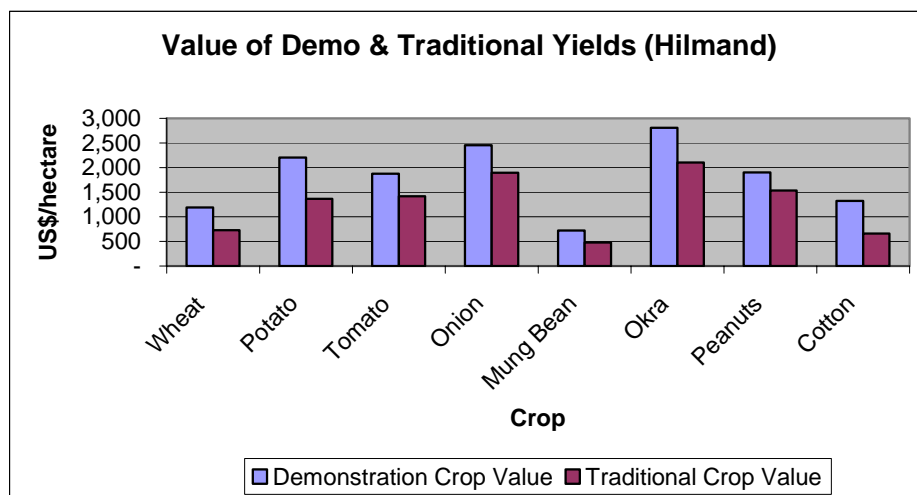


Potato demonstration plot in Parwan province

Crop	Province	Average Demo Yield mt/ha	Average Traditional Variety Yield mt/ha	Difference between Demo and Traditional	Value of Increased Yield \$
Wheat	Hilmand	7.0	4.3	2.7	\$458
"	Nangarhar	4.1	2.6	1.5	\$257
"	Kunduz	4.6	3.1	1.5	\$259
"	Parwan	4.8	1.8	3.0	\$514
"	Ghazni	3.4	2.0	1.4	\$237
Potato	Hilmand	19.2	11.9	7.3	\$837
"	Nangarhar	21.8	14.0	7.8	\$894
"	Kunduz	23.6	13.6	10.0	\$1149
"	Parwan	27.3	20.4	6.9	\$790
"	Ghazni	34.9	25.5	9.4	\$1069
Tomato	Hilmand	18.6	13.2	5.4	\$461
"	Nangarhar	24.6	17.1	7.5	\$640
"	Kunduz	52.8	29.4	23.4	\$2001
"	Parwan	34.0	25.6	8.4	\$720
Onion	Hilmand	28.5	22	6.5	\$559
"	Nangarhar	29.4	20.1	9.3	\$794
"	Kunduz	42.9	23.5	19.4	\$1659
"	Parwan	35.0	27.4	7.6	\$654
"	Ghazni	34.0	22.7	11.3	\$966
Okra	Hilmand	16.3	12.2	4.1	\$706
"	Nangarhar	14.0	9.5	4.5	\$778
"	Kunduz	9.3	5.5	3.8	\$650
"	Parwan	10.8	9.4	1.4	\$238
Mung Beans	Hilmand	2.1	1.4	0.7	\$240
"	Nangarhar	2.2	1.4	0.8	\$245
"	Kunduz	1.4	0.6	0.8	\$267
"	Parwan	1.3	1.0	0.3	\$117
Peanuts	Hilmand	4.6	3.7	0.9	\$372
"	Kunduz	5.6	4.1	1.5	\$588
Rice	Nangarhar	5.4	4.3	1.1	\$377
"	Kunduz	8.2	5.4	2.8	\$957
Cotton	Hilmand	2.6	1.3	1.3	\$435
"	Kunduz	2.6	1.3	1.3	\$432

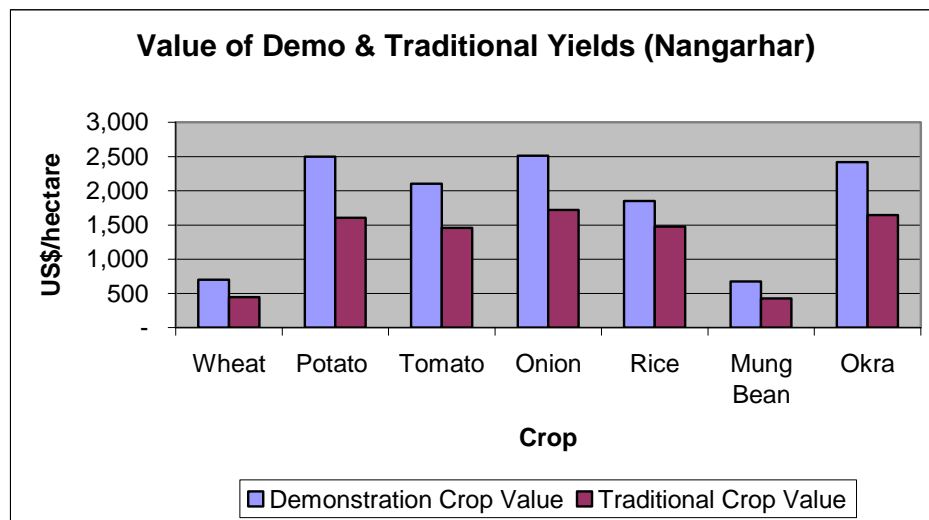
Hilmand

- Okra, onions, and potatoes provided the highest return to the land. The demonstrations of potatoes and okra provided the biggest differences in value of the demonstration crop versus the traditional crop varieties. For the wheat demonstrations, ICARDA planted 30 plots of Roshan-96 and Amu-99 varieties.



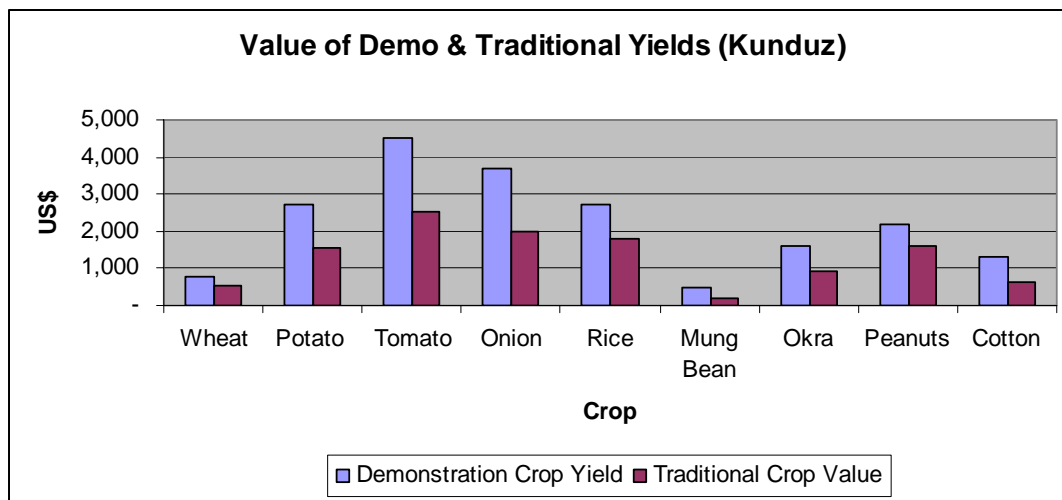
Nangarhar

- The Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Directorate of Nangarhar issued a letter of appreciation for the activities of ICARDA in the province. The Director credited ICARDA for improving the capacity of the Provincial Directorate.
- ICARDA conducted a rice field day in Kama district of Nangarhar province, attended by 94 farmers, NGOs, and provincial Ministry officers.
- ICARDA tested onion variety 'Seed of Red Creole' on a demonstration plot, resulting in a germination percentage of over 90%. Seeds from the demonstration have since been planted in onion seedling nurseries for future transplanting.
- Potatoes, onions, and okra provided the highest return to the land – these crops presented the biggest differences in value between the demonstration plot and traditional cropping methods. For the wheat demonstrations, ICARDA planted 24 plots (18 varietal and 6 seed rate) of Mazar-99 and Lalmi-2 varieties.



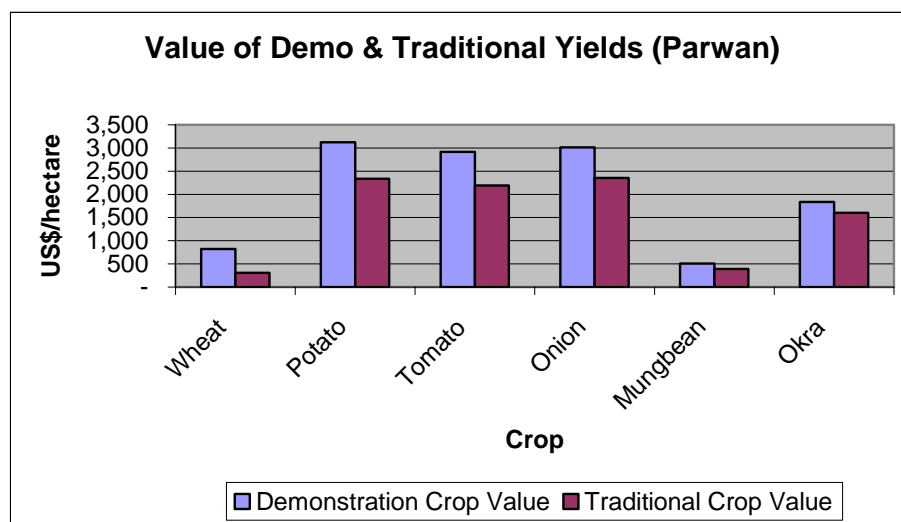
Kunduz

- Tomatoes and onions provided the highest return to the land. The demonstrations of tomatoes, onions, and potatoes provided the biggest differences in value of the demonstration crop versus the traditional crop. Forty-nine wheat demonstrations of Roshan-96 and Amu-99 were planted.



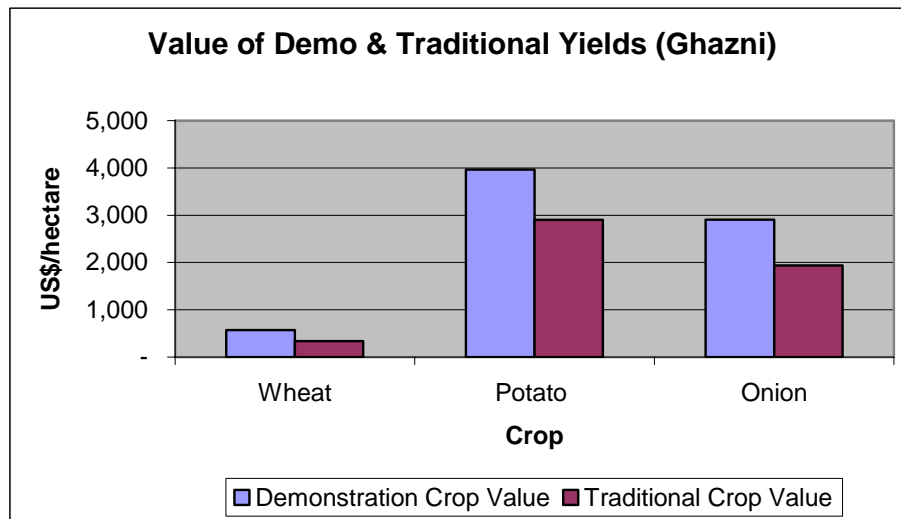
Parwan

- Potatoes, tomatoes, and onions provided the highest return to the land. The demonstrations of potatoes and tomatoes provided the biggest differences in value of the demonstration crop versus the traditional crop. Thirty wheat demonstrations of Gul-96 and Solh-2000 were planted.



Ghazni

- Potatoes and onions provided relatively high return to the land. The demonstrations of potatoes and onions provided the biggest differences in value of the demonstration crop versus the traditional crop. ICARDA planted 28 wheat demonstrations of Gul-96 and Lalmi-2 varieties.

**Looking Forward**

- RAMP project managers will evaluate the adoption rate survey results from the demonstration sites and continue to assess the impact of ICARDA's project.
- ICARDA will focus more efforts on monitoring wheat germination and early growth of the demonstration crops in the five provinces
- ICARDA will select farmers and demonstration sites for the spring/summer planting of the potato, onion, tomato, okra, peanut, and cotton, rice, and mung beans in its target provinces.

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken

The security situation in Afghanistan in general and in Hilmand in particular remains unstable. ICARDA's provincial, technical team has had to maintain a low profile. Although many of the international agencies have withdrawn their personnel from Hilmand, ICARDA is maintaining its project activities while taking the necessary precautions in its movements.

Project Manager Comments

ICARDA's crop demonstration sites effectively display to farmers how improved seed varieties and diversified agricultural approaches can lead to greater economic returns. Through the forthcoming adoption rate surveys, RAMP project managers will have a more clear understanding of ICARDA's impact on the farming communities.

Quarterly Report

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Direct Seeding Agriculture Project
International Assistance Mission
Life of Project: October 19, 2004 - June 30, 2006
Provinces: Kabul and Kunduz

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#8B-0004-IAM	October 19, 2005	Abdul Qudous	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$62,579	\$0	\$40,551	\$0	\$22,028

Project Description: IAM is examining effectiveness of using John Deere direct seeders for dry land wheat production at a six sites in Kabul and Kunduz provinces. Through this project, IAM is encouraging share farming contracts, organizing field days, and conducting interviews of farmer beneficiary satisfaction for monitoring purposes.

Accomplishments this Quarter

IAM planted an experimental plot (0.4 hectare) in Khan Abad district of Kunduz province to monitor:

- local cultivation versus direct seed cultivation techniques
- local variety (Zaldana) versus an improved variety (Lalmi 2)
- planting with and without DAP (at 37kg/ha) and
- planting with two seed rates (80kg/ha and 120kg/ha).

IAM also planted a demonstration site of 2.27 ha in Khan Abad, requesting the participating farmer to select the variety of seed and fertilizer. He chose the local variety Zaldana and used one bag of US-made DAP and Russian-made Imophos.

In November, IAM conducted a field day in Khan Abad with over 30 farmers attending. IAM facilitated a training session for 12 government workers at the Kunduz agricultural department, focusing on the principles of minimum tillage agriculture.

Five participating farmers have contributed to the costs of planting 21 ha of land according to the direct seed management practice – indicating a willingness of local beneficiaries to explore new planting methods.

Looking Forward

IAM will continue managing its demonstration sites, and conduct three farmer field days.

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken

Planting continues to be hindered by difficult weather conditions; IAM has had to reschedule planting and a number of its field days.

Because of the wet conditions brought on by the snow in December and January, IAM was unable to plant its scheduled wheat demonstrations and facilitate the associated field days.

Many local farmers have chosen not to plant saying that rainfall has been inadequate. Consequently, IAM planted about one third of the demonstrations on its own, with no financial contributions from farmers, and will wait on further rain to complete all planting.

Project Manager Comments

Last year's results need to be analyzed, evaluated, and reported

Quarterly Report

Q4 FY05

December 31, 2005

Introducing Protected Agriculture in Marginal and Water Deficient Areas
International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)
Life of Project: November 10, 2003 – June 30, 2003
Provinces: Parwan, Ghazni, Nangarhar, Hilmand, Kunduz, Kabul

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#9-0004-ICARDA	November 10, 2003	M. Alem Alemi	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$1,279,682	\$251,331	\$1,118,647	\$104,169	\$161,035
Project Description: ICARDA is introducing protected agriculture for cash crop production in marginal and water deficit areas of Afghanistan. The project is promoting the adoption of affordable and sustainable protected agricultural systems to produce high value crops, using marginal or otherwise non-productive lands and water more efficiently, by establishing a central demonstration and training site within Kabul and by installing simple greenhouse structures at selected pilot sites with participating farmers.				

Accomplishments this Quarter

- As a result of ICARDA's demonstrations of protected agriculture facilities, 167 farmers from six provinces have expressed interest in investing in greenhouses (GHs) on their farms. The interested farmers are willing to contribute 20% to the cost of the GH.
 - The cost of an ICARDA GH (29 meters x 9m x 3.25m), water pump, generator for the pump, water reservoir tank, tank stand and pipes, drip irrigation system, and well is estimated at \$2850.
 - The annual income from the greenhouse of two off-season crops of cucumbers is about \$2800.
 - Annual cost of production is about \$1660. Net profit is about \$1140
- ICARDA reached an agreement with RAMP partner Mercy Corps International (MCI) to assist in financing and establishing 30 private GHs in Baghlan, Kunduz, and Takhar provinces.
 - For each GH, the farmer will contribute \$700, MCI will contribute \$800, and the rest will be covered by ICARDA.
 - To date, 17 of the 30 interested farmers have paid \$700 each to ICARDA for establishing their GH. ICARDA has prepared the construction materials, irrigation pipes, and net for the 30 GHs.
- ICARDA visited project sites and provided technical assistance and training to 35 farmers with GHs in six provinces (Kabul, Ghazni, Nangarhar, Parwan, Kunduz, and Hilmand). Some of these farmers have completed their second season of vegetable production and sales. ICARDA instructed farmers on how to make the doors of the GHs more effective by providing more covering polyethylene sheets to stop temperature losses during winter. ICARDA distributed equipment and agricultural inputs, such as, sprayers, insecticide, fungicide, magnifiers, and sulfur powder for GH management.
- ICARDA conducted a 'Farmers Field School' 10 farmers from Parwan, Ghazni and Kabul provinces.
- ICARDA collected data on the maximum and minimum temperatures inside the GHs and on wholesale market in Kabul, and conducted a socio-economic assessment of project activity to compare with the project baseline indicators

Parwan

- Border spaces of Jangle Bagh GH in Parwan were planted with cauliflower seedlings.
- Provided technical assistance to greenhouse operators on maintaining, cleaning, irrigating, and fertigation
- Despite adding plastic to the walls of the GHs, the GHs were hit by frost on the November 17, 2005, and damaging some crops.

Ghazni

- Provided technical assistance to greenhouse operators on maintenance, cleaning, irrigating, and fertigation
- Brought farmers' groups to private growers' GHs in Parwan and Ghazni to demonstrate effectiveness of protected agriculture technology.

Nangarhar

- Six GHs were monitored for crop growth, irrigation usage, and fertigation; cucumber production was good
- Despite adding plastic to the walls of the GHs, GH cucumbers and tomatoes were hit by frost on December 31, 2005.

Hilmand

- Six GHs were monitored for crop growth, irrigation usage, and fertigation; cucumber production was good
- Despite adding plastic to the walls of the GHs, GH cucumbers were hit by frost on December 15, 2005.

Kunduz

- Six GHs were monitored for crop growth, irrigation usage, and fertigation; cucumber production was good
- GH cucumbers in Imam Sahib District were hit by frost on December 15, 2005 and in GHs in the other 5 districts on December 5, 2005.

Kabul

- Visited five greenhouse operators in five districts and provided the farmers technical assistance in maintaining the greenhouses and irrigation systems, in late fall production techniques, and in over-wintering of the GHs
- Superior quality cucumbers and tomatoes produced from July to November at the Protected Agriculture Center (PAC) and field GHs sold for \$2.57/kg and \$0.10/kg respectively. The relatively low price of tomatoes was due to the unfamiliarity of the customers with the new (Cherry) tomato variety.
- Despite adding plastic to the walls of the GHs, GH crops were hit by frost on November 17, 2005

Looking Forward

Over the next quarter ICARDA will carry out the following activities:

- Establish 30 private GHs in Kunduz, Baghlan, and Takhar provinces
- Provide training (tentatively scheduled for February 12-20, 2006) on greenhouse production for the 30 farmers and other interested farmers. Assist the 30 farmers in planting their crop in the greenhouses
- Assist at least 20 more interested farmers in investing in the GH utilizing a similar financial arrangement as was done with the 30 participating farmers.
- Provide training to six Afghan extension agents, growers and technicians on GH Management from January 28 to February 16, 2006 at Al Bosaily Training Center in Egypt
- Supply necessary agricultural inputs, thermometers, and materials required for maintenance of greenhouses in the targeted provinces.
- Finalize the socio-economic assessment and report the results.
- Monitor crops and sown seeds at the PAC and at growers' greenhouses
- Continue collecting wholesale market price data in Kabul and train extension workers on how to utilize the data for determining the proper timing for off-season vegetable production and sales

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken

- Security and protection of greenhouses at farmers' fields is a serious concern. Farmers may need to arrange for securing their greenhouses, especially when there is a crop ready for harvest
- Security situation in Hilmand hampered the movement of the project team. Project activities will continue but ICARDA is ensuring necessary precautions are followed

Project Manager Comments

- ICARDA must move quickly on moving construction materials, irrigation pipes, and seeds to Kunduz quickly to establish 30 private GHs.
- In order to encourage the sustainability of the GHs development, ICARDA should begin ensuring all GH manufacturing supplies are available from private and accessible.
- ICARDA should increase training in GH management and protection to assure private growers do not to lose their significant amounts of crops during the winter.

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PROJECT COMPLETED

Shamali Plains Road and Canal Rehabilitation
Agence d'aide a la Cooperation et au Developpement (ACTED)
Life of Project : December 1, 2003 - October 31, 2005
Province: Parwan

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#10-0002-ACTED	December 1, 2003	Saroj Basnyet	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$729,109	\$0	\$729,109	\$53,167	\$0

Project Description: ACTED has rehabilitated 25.6 km of secondary roads and de-silted and widened 20 km of the Charikar canal in Shamali Plains region of Parwan province.

Project Accomplishments

Transport and irrigation improvement are prerequisites for improving the comparative advantage of farmers of the Shamali Plains. Rehabilitation of roads has reduced associated transport costs for farmers shipping from the agricultural catchment areas to urban markets. ACTED's canal rehabilitation has increased the number of hectares served with a reliable supply of irrigation water, leading to higher yields of crops.

Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km of Roads Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Sinjid Dara Road	Parwan	Charikar	4.2	4.2	100%
Canal Road	Parwan	Charikar	11.8	11.8	100%
Main Shakh Road	Parwan	Charikar	9.6	9.6	100%
Total:			25.6	25.6	100%
Canal Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km of Canals Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Charikar Canal	Parwan	Charikar	20	20	100%
Total:			20	20	100%

Road Rehabilitation

ACTED rehabilitated 9.6 km of Main Shakh and 11.8 km of Canal Road. Rehabilitation of Sinjid Dara, Canal and Main Shakh road has reduced the time required for traveling on these roads. Time required for traveling from Main Shakh and Canal road to the market centre at Charikar has been reduced from 2 hours to 30 minutes and from 60 to 25 minutes. Similarly the time required for traveling along the Sinjid Dara road has been reduced from 30 to 10 minutes.

The following photos were taken on the same spot of Main Shakh and Canal road before and after rehabilitation during September 2004 and May 2005 to illustrate the difference on the structure of roads.



Before: Canal road at 4.6 km mark before rehabilitation



After: Canal road at 4.6 km mark after ACTED's rehabilitation work.



Before: Canal road at 5.3 km mark before rehabilitation



After: Canal road at 5.3 km mark after ACTED's rehabilitation work.



Before: Main Shakh at 1.8 km mark before rehabilitation



After: Main Shakh at 1.8 km mark after ACTED's rehabilitation

Canal Rehabilitation

The Nahri Charikar Canal provides irrigation facilities to an estimated 7,000 hectares in 6 valleys. It is fed by Ghorband River and flows from the Bamyan Valley.

In order to restore the original capacity of the canal to deliver water, ACTED cleared and de-silted the canal network. This work was done with a combination of machine and unskilled labor and will allow the canal irrigation water to once again flow freely through the Shamali Plains to beneficiary farmers. The canal is being widened by a meter along its entire length, often doubling the width of the canal, which will allow more water to flow through the canal and provide irrigation to more land.

Project Manager Comments

ACTED has demonstrated that they have the ability to rehabilitate roads USAID standards. The results of the California Bearing Ratio tests indicate that the roads' quality is higher than the required 60 percent - indicating that the structural properties of gravel base are satisfactory. The compacted thickness of the gravel base in different locations is greater than the required 20 centimeter. They adopted labor-intensive construction technologies and provided employment opportunities to farmers from the influence area of the road corridor.

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PROJECT COMPLETED

Kanday Road Rehabilitation and Diversion Canal Excavation
Mission d'Aide au Developement des Economies Rurales en Afghanistan (MADERA)
Life of Project : December 15, 2003 – August 31, 2004
Province: Nangarhar

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#11-002-MADERA	December 15, 2003	Khodaidad Mahmood	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$448,100	\$0	\$448,100	\$0	\$0
Project Description: MADERA rehabilitated a 300 meter section of the road washed out between Jalalabad and Asadabad, constructed a protection wall and gabion dyke along side the road to reduce erosion, dug a diversion canal to divert part of the Kunar river to lessen the force of the flow on the newly constructed protection wall.				

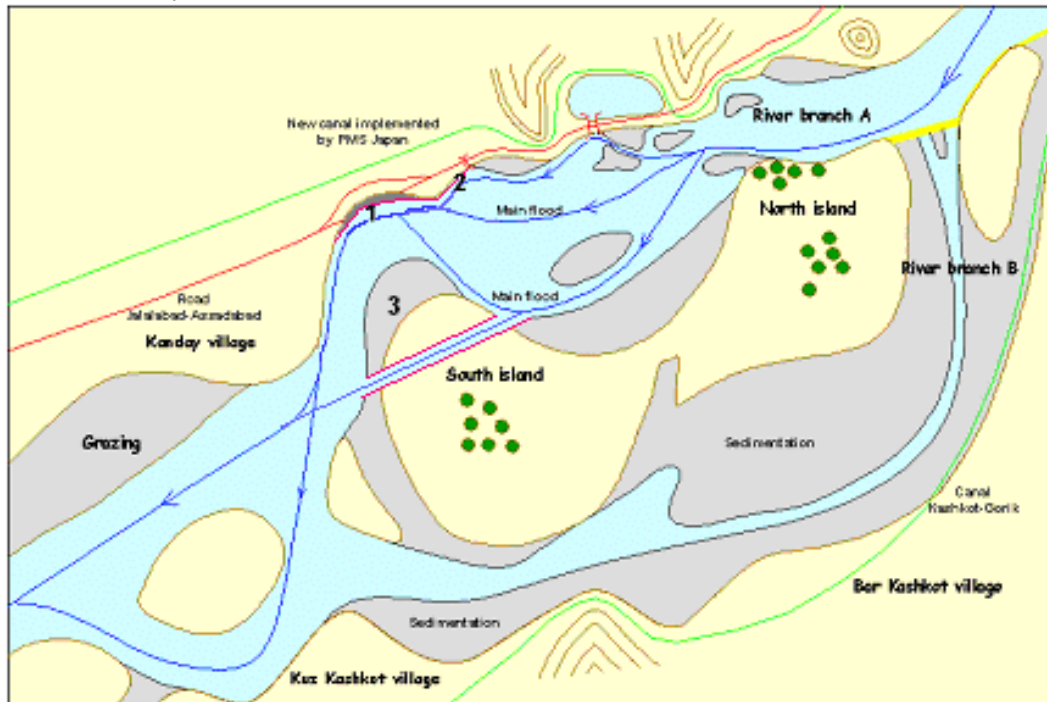
Project Accomplishments

During floods, the Kunar River had eroded its 3 to 5 m high bank near Kanday Village, and effectively severed road communications between Jalalabad in Nangarhar Province and Asad Abad in Kunar Province. MADERA worked with PMS, a Japanese NGO who were building a new irrigation canal upstream from the site of the collapsed roadway, to rehabilitate a 300 m section of the road that floods had damaged. MADERA's efforts effectively redirect flow of the Kunar River away from the right bank, to protect villages and agricultural lands, restore the main road between Nangarhar and Kunar provinces and construct flood protection works for the benefit of the PMS canal.

To protect the road from further erosion, MADERA also constructed a protection wall and gabion dyke, and excavated a canal to divert the river's water flow from the road and surrounding villages.

Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km of Roads Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Kanday Road	Nangarhar	Kuz Kunar	.3	.3	100%
Total:			.3	.3	100%
Protection Wall Construction	Province	District	Structures Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Kunar River Protection wall and gabion dyke	Nangarhar	Kuz Kunar	1	1	100%
Total:			1	1	1
Diversion Canal Excavation	Province	District	Cubic meters of sediment excavated		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Kunar River diversion canal	Nangarhar	Kuz Kunar	3,250 m ³	3,250 m ³	100%
Total:			3,250 m³	3,250 m³	100%

The following diagram illustrates how MADERA's work on the retaining wall and diversion canal protects the recently rehabilitated roadwork from further erosion.



MADERA and RAMP project managers made several adaptations to the original design during construction. Among the most important of these were, the extension of the bank protection dike into the channel to further induce the river to move toward the middle of this highly braided river, enlarge the channel designed for river straightening by integrating work with that of PMS, and the combining of gabions and large dumped stone to stabilize the relocated dike.

Sedimentation occurred along the protection wall dike following a major flood during 2004. The sediment deposits provide additional assurance of the stability of the works and indicate that the right bank heights are not likely to be attacked by high flow velocities. A further measure to ensure stability of the works is a possible program of forestation on the dike and embankment to stabilize it against erosion.

Beneficial sedimentation due to redirection of flow and construction of the protection wall along the river bank



Project Manager Comments

MADERA achieved its primary objective through this project, in that the eroded embankment and roadway were restored, flood flows have been redirected from impinging on the right bank heights to mid-channel, works were built for the protection of two irrigation canals, and erosion of the main road between Nangarhar and Kunar/Nuristan provinces has been forestalled. The roadway could be further projected through donor funding to support a tree planting project focused on the bench area of the reinforced dike and along the adjacent river bank.

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Livestock Health, Production, and Marketing Improvement Program
Dutch Committee for Afghanistan (DCA)
Life of Project: January 6, 2004 - April 30, 2006
Province: Nationwide

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#13-0004-DCA	January 6, 2004	Daad Mohammad Amir	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$11,995,453	\$1,351,080	\$9,815,622	\$734,287	\$2,179,831
Project Description: DCA is creating a national network of private veterinary field units (VFU) capable of providing livestock health services in all 380 districts of Afghanistan. DCA will also train sufficient numbers of Para-veterinarians (paravets) to staff and service the national network, and create a livestock health, production, and marketing information system that link this private para-vet network with government departments on such issues as disease surveillance, livestock inventories, and trans-border issues.				

Accomplishments this Quarter

From October to December 2005, DCA and its partners, Afghan Veterinary Association (AVA) and Partners in Revitalization and Building (PRB), delivered 3,357,559 vaccinations, medications and other veterinary services to livestock of beneficiary farmers. The average number of veterinary services per district in the DCA project was 12,963; these services include an average of 8,130 vaccinations, 4,591 medications administered, and 241 other veterinary services (i.e diagnostics, pregnancy tests, minor surgeries).

The following table illustrates the number of vaccinations, medication, and other veterinary services DCA and its partners delivered over the last quarter by region.

Region	Provinces Covered	Districts Covered	# VFUs	Vaccinations	Medications	Other Vet Services	Actual Cumulative
DCA-Kabul	4	29	46	176,604	104,827	7,977	289,408
DCA-Hirat (West)	4	43	115	506,145	205,990	10,437	722,572
DCA-Mazar (North)	5	30	36	453,396	227,609	13,545	694,550
AVA (South)	14	115	115	451,000	465,978	20,346	937,324
PRB (North-East)	4	42	48	518,708	184,824	10,173	713,705
Total:	31	259	360	2,105,853	1,189,228	62,478	3,357,559

- DCA successfully navigated the administrative procedures associated with for the importing of 2 million doses of Enterotoxemia vaccine from Jordan.
- DCA and MADERA developed a protocol for the purchase of Anthrax, Pasteurella and Black Quarter vaccines from the AVPL, Kabul under the MADERA EU project.
- DCA placed an additional order for 500,000 doses CCPV vaccine was made to the VRI in Lahore, Pakistan
- DCA and its partners re-established and created 14 new VFUs (5 in Balkh, 4 in Jowzjan, 2 in Samangan, 2 in Faryab, and 1 in Sar-e-Pul provinces).
- In the Kabul region, DCA imported and installed 10 of 70 solar powered refrigerators to store veterinary medicines. A new purchase order for another 180 solar powered refrigerators has been placed with Afghan Solar Co.
- DCA's reconstruction, refurbishment and distribution of veterinary equipment to VFUs continued in all five regions.

Training

Over the past quarter, 172 Paravets were newly trained or enrolled in refresher courses.

- On December 8, 2005 27 new-Paravets, (including 15 from AVA, 6 from MADERA and 6 from Agha Khan Foundation VFUs) graduated from the VSC in Charikar, Parwan.
- At DCA-VTSC in Mazaar-Sharif, the second new Para-vet training course (including a Business Skills Seminar) with 22 participants from 8 different provinces started.
- At the DCA-VTSC in Hirat, two business skills training courses were held with 40 Paravets



Para-vet graduation ceremony at training center in Charikar, Parwan. .

- participating.
- Five refresher courses of 2 weeks each were organized, including, one on Differential Diagnosis of Diseases for 20 DVMs working in VFUs of DCA, AVA, and Mercy Corps, two on Reproduction and Pregnancy testing for 27 Paravets, and two on Pharmacology for 29 Paravets.
- At the request of Mercy Corp, DCA trainers from Charikar conducted a 7-day Business Skills Seminar for 22 VFUs staff members of Mercy Corps in Kandahar.

Government and Donor Coordination

- DCA provided field monitors to accompany the MAAHF teams in the field to conduct an Avian Influenza Survey through the VFUs.
- Representatives from DCA participated in livestock sub-sector policy reform meetings, focusing on the definition and appropriate delivery of public and private sector veterinary services.
- Representatives from DCA participated as a member of the MAAHF Master Plan Working Group on Animal Health Production. The Working Group completed their work on the Master Plan on DATE (refer to JO#51)

Looking Forward

Over the next quarter DCA will carry out the following activities:

- Complete the installation of the remaining 60 solar-powered refrigerators/freezers in the four other regions;
- Receive the first shipment of vaccines - 2 million doses of Enterotoxemia (Jordan), 500,000 doses CCPP (Pakistan) and 1 million doses Anthrax Spore (Kabul);
- In Hirat, starting a new-Para-vet training course at the DCA;
- Organize a refresher course on Reproduction and Pregnancy Testing for DVMs at the DCA VTSC in Charikar;
- Procure feed supplements for distribution to VFUs;
- Continue the monitor and recruit (for the coming new-Para-vet training courses at the DCA VTSC in Charikar and Mazar) new-Paravets in regions where there are currently no veterinary



Sign marking one of DCA's many Veterinary Field Units (VFUs) throughout rural Afghanistan.

field services;

- Continue the recruitment of 20 new Paravets from the Kuchi community for a special training program;
- Support the avian influenza disease surveillance by the government within the framework of the FAO Trans-boundary disease program;
- Continue participating in the joint MAAH Steering Committee on Animal Production and Health and the ACBAR Animal Health Working Group;
- Complete the texts of Farmer Fact Sheets on key diseases as part of the extension and outreach effort and produce a marketing brochure for distribution by VFUs to farmers.

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken

- On occasion, imported vaccines have been held up at the airport for over a week due to prolonged administrative procedures. The problem will be brought up at the MAAHF Steering Committee meeting, and representatives are exploring ways to avoid these obstacles.
- The problems of overlapping VFU areas of DCA and AKDN raised by the animal health program of AKDN in Bamyan, Parwan, Baghlan and Badakshan provinces are ongoing and in need of immediate attention. The MAAHF Steering Committee will address this issue to ensure donor funds are not supporting duplicative activities.
- VFUs need credit for purchasing additional medicines to expand their business. DCA needs to direct Paravets to microfinance banks, or other rural finance services provided through RAMP or other donor-funded programs.



Refrigerated unit storing livestock vaccinations at a VFU.

Project Manager Comments

- In some VFUs, motorcycles and instrument kits are in high demand. In order to provide enough motorbikes and instruments to the VFUs, DCA will need to realign its budget with RAMP.
- The Livestock Steering Committee of which DCA plays a very influential participatory role has proven to be a very effective forum for donor coordination, strategic planning, and policy formulation within the MAAHF

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PROJECT COMPLETED

Bridge Construction and Road Rehabilitation in Aga Khil
Agency for Rehabilitation and Energy Conservation in Afghanistan (AREA)
Life of Project : January 7, 2004 - February 15, 2004
Province: Wardak, Ghazni

Job Order No.	Date of Award	Project Manager	USAID CTO	USAID CO
JO#14-0002-AREA	January 7, 2004	Saroj Basnyet	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
Ceiling Price	Quarter Expenditures	Cumulative Expenditures	Accruals to Date	Balance
\$2,454	\$0	\$2,454	\$0	\$0
Project Description: AREA reconstructed the bridge (24 meters long, 3 meters high with 42 culverts) near Aga Khil in Wardak which connected Ghazni-Hazarajat market centers. Also, 42 km of road has been rehabilitated including 42 washes and culverts. This project was begun under AQIPS and completed under RAMP in January 2004. This project provides reliable access to markets for families Wardak and Ghazni				

Project Accomplishments

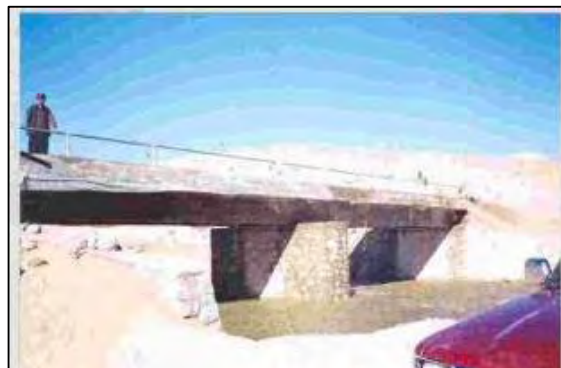
The bridge near Aga Khil, Wardak spans a seasonal river, which floods during the spring and late summer. As a result of the flooding, both local and Ghazni-Hazarajat transportation routes were have been obstructed. Local traffic serves mostly farmers going to Ghazni to buy inputs and sell produce (timber, onions, potatoes, wheat). In addition, Hazarajat and Ghazni trade is significant, as Hazarajat residents sell their livestock products and buy oils, cereals, sugar and tea from Ghazni. The road is also used by the local community to access clinics, family/friends in other towns/villages, and schools.

The local shura first requested that the bridge be built of both AREA and Chemonics under the USAID-funded Afghanistan Quick Impact Program (AQIP), as the bridge sits in the middle of the road AQIP was rehabilitating. (10 km on either side). Due to a shortage of laborers (primarily carpenters), and the conclusion of the AQIP November 2003, RAMP continued to fund this important activity of AREA's. Through this project, AREA also rehabilitated 42 km of rural roads.

Bridge Reconstruction	Province	District	Bridges Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Aga Khil Bridge	Wardak	Jaghathu	1 (24 meters)	1 (24 meters)	100%
Total:			1	1	100%
Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km of Roads Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Aga Khil Road	Wardak and Ghazni	Jaghathu (Wardak/Ghazni) to Rashidan (Ghazni)	42	42	100%
Total:			42	42	100%



AREA laborers working on Aga Khil bridge.



Aga Khil bridge completed by AREA in February 2004.

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PROJECT COMPLETED

Construction of Three Dams for Shamali Plains
Reconstruction Authority for Afghanistan (RAFA)
Life of Project : January 7, 2004 - January 31, 2004
Province: Parwan

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#15-0002-RAFA	January 7, 2004	Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$2,746	\$0	\$2,746	\$0	\$0
Project Description: RAFA has completed the design and reconstruction of three water diversion dams along the Ghorband River in Parwan province, improving the irrigation to canals feeding 40 villages in the region. This project was begun under AQIPS and completed under RAMP.				

Project Accomplishments

Through 2003, RAFA was working with Chemonics on the Afghanistan Quick Impact Program (AQIP) in Parwan (AQIP), constructing three large dams along the Ghorband River. Due to the lack of time under AQIP to finish the project, RAMP absorbed all remaining activities and monitored the completion of the three large dams in the Shamali Plains.

The three water diversion dams along the Ghorband River (Charikar, Khwaja/Matak, Mahigeer) irrigate approximately 18,000 hectares of land. Over 40 villages are irrigated by the canals from these dams.



Diversion dam constructed by RAMP partner RAFA on the Ghorband River, Parwan province.

Dam Construction	Province	District	Dams Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Charikar Dam	Parwan	Charikar	1	1	100%
Khwaja/Matak Dam	Parwan	Charikar	1	1	100%
Mahigeer Dam	Parwan	Charikar	1	1	100%
Total:			3	3	100%

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Rehabilitation of Irrigation Canals in Parwan Reconstruction Authority for Afghanistan (RAFA) Life of Project: January 21, 2004 to January 31, 2006 Provinces: Parwan				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#16-0002-RAFA	January 21, 2004	Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$800,000	\$140,532	\$614,283	\$0	\$185,717
Project Description: RAFA is constructing five water diversion dams on the Salang/Ghorband river to provide water to five canals irrigating a total of 28,670 ha of farmland.				

Accomplishments this Quarter

During the summer months, RAFA needed to halt work on the diversion dams, as water levels in the river too high to carry effectively work at the project sites. Over this last quarter, water levels dropped, and RAFA was able to resume work at an expedited rate. By the end of 2005, RAFA finished all work on the Toghbirdy, Ibrahim, Khil Afghan diversion dams, and the Barq and Belowdan diversion dams are 98% complete. RAFA is well on schedule to finish all activities by the end January 2006.

Dam Construction	Province	District	Dams Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Barq Canal Diversion Dam	Parwan	Jabalussaraj	1	Work ongoing	98%
Belowdan Canal Diversion Dam	Parwan	Jabalussaraj	1	Work ongoing	98%
Toghbirdy Canal Diversion Dam	Parwan	Said khil	1	1	100%
Ibrahim Khil Canal Diversion Dam	Parwan	Jabalussaraj	1	1	100%
Afghan Canal Diversion Dam	Parwan	Jabalussaraj	1	1	100%
		Total:	5	3 completed 2 nearly completed	99%

Looking Ahead

RAFA will continue with all the remaining planned activities detailed in the project's work-plan over the next reporting period. These tasks include: the fabrication and installation of water control gates - both for sediment flush out structures and canal inlets, and hand railings affixed to the newly completed structures. RAMP plans to have an inauguration event for the project in February 2006.

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken

Floods this summer were extremely high and protecting the uncompleted work was a big challenge. Fortunately the temporary flood protection measures that were in place worked well and no significant damage occurred.



RAFA's Afghan canal project site.

Project Manager Comments

Due to summer flooding, RAFA needed to stop work for three months. Over this past quarter, RAFA needed to focus tremendous efforts on removing additional sediment that filled in its previously excavated foundations.



RAFA's Barq canal project site.



RAFA's Belowdan canal project site.

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PROJECT COMPLETED

Road Rehabilitation in Balkh Province Agency for Rehabilitation and Energy Conservation in Afghanistan (AREA) Life of Project: February 17, 2004 - July 31, 2005 Province: Balkh				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#17-0002-AREA	February 17, 2004	Saroj Basnyet	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$1,242,867	\$0	\$1,242,867	\$0	\$0
Project Description: AREA rehabilitated 96.9 km of road in the Balkh province, including the construction of culverts and other necessary road structures, improving main transportation routes leading to the main bazaar and local markets.				
Expected Results (at end of project): Enhanced Livelihood – 83,000 farm families with increased access to markets; 114,239 person-days of employment.				

Project Accomplishments

On July 13, 2005 AREA held a dedication ceremony, commemorating the completed rehabilitation of 100 km of road in Dihdadi, Balkh, Chintal, Nahari-Shahee and Charbulak districts of Balkh province. These roads provide the fundamental base for the socio-economic transformation of 244,000 people living in 36,681 hectares of agricultural land located on their catchment area. Some of the main indicators of this project's success are an increase in vehicle traffic, savings in the transportation costs, and reduction in travel time.

Rapid increase in traffic flows on these roads has lead to higher economic opportunities. The Dehragi and Chintal road segments are experiencing a 40-60 percent increase in vehicle traffic.

Consequently, beneficiaries are saving money in transport costs. On the Chintal road segment, transport costs dropped from \$10 to \$6 per metric ton on Chintal road. Similarly, on the Colombo and Dehragai road segments, the transport costs decreased from \$8 to \$5 per metric ton. These savings have occurred in spite of the fact that fuel prices have increased substantially over the same period of time throughout Afghanistan.

Activity	Province	District	Km of Road Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Sarake Kohna Balkh Road	Balkh	Dihdadi and Balkh	8.4	8.4	100%
Colombo (Daggo) Road	Balkh	Balkh	26	26	100%
Dehbabi/Dehragai Road	Balkh	Balkh	12	12	100%
Chintal Road	Balkh	Chintal and Balkh	16	16	100%
Deh Qazi Road	Balkh	Balkh	7	7	100%
Langarkhana Road	Balkh	Nahari-Shahee	18	18	100%
Yangi - Arigh Road	Balkh	Charbulak	9.5	9.5	100%
Total:			96.9	96.9	100%

The following photos were taken on the same spot of different road segments before (July 2004) and after (July 2005) they were rehabilitated by AREA. They clearly illustrate the substantial contributions AREA has made to the enhanced livelihoods of Balkh's farming communities.



Before: Chimtal road at 13.6 km mark before rehabilitation.



After: Chimtal road at 13.6 km mark after AREA's rehabilitation.



Before: Deh Qazil road at 1.8 km mark before rehabilitation.



After: Deh Qazi road at 1.8km mark after AREA's rehabilitation work.



Before: Langarkhana road at 2.5 km mark before rehabilitation.



After: Langarkhana road at 2.5 km mark after AREA's rehabilitation

Looking Ahead

AREA has signed maintenance agreements with local government bodies and beneficiary communities to ensure these road segments remain in good condition.

Project Manager Comments

Balkh's Governor Atta Mohammad Noor was very pleased with AREA's work and requested that RAMP engage in additional road rehabilitation projects in the province. RAMP has since begun rehabilitation on an additional 48 km of roads. This particular road segment connects Sholgar district with an industrial area on the outskirts of Balkh's capital Mazar-e Sharif.

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PROJECT COMPLETED

Rehabilitation of Irrigation Systems and Water Management Reconstruction and Social Services for Afghanistan (RSSA) Life of Project: February 17, 2005 - August 31, 2005 Province: Nangarhar				
Job Order No.	Date of Award	Project Manager	USAID CTO	USAID CO
JO#18-0002-RSSA	February 17, 2004	Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
Ceiling Price	Quarter Expenditures	Cumulative Expenditures	Accruals to Date	Balance
\$1,853,594	\$0	\$1,853,594	\$94,164	\$0
Project Description: RSSA rehabilitated the hydro technical, protection and division structures at the end point (6 Km) of Nangarhar canal and sub canals 29, 30, and 31. Through this project RSSA rehabilitated 10.3 km of irrigation canals, constructed 2 diversion dams, and rehabilitated 15.5 km of tertiary roads.				

Project Accomplishments

Through this project, RSSA restored irrigation to 6,000 hectares of land at the tail of the Nangarhar Valley Irrigation Development Project in Nangarhar Province.

The project was designed for community economic growth based on irrigated agriculture aimed: (1) to respond to the urgent needs of small landholders whose livelihood is drawn from irrigated agriculture, (2) to strengthen the operational and conveyance capacity of canals to assure water availability at farm field inlets for optimal productivity, (3) to provide a sense of ownership to the local farmers through the establishment of water user associations for maintenance and rehabilitation of the irrigation systems, and (4) to restore the previous situation by providing the above opportunities to IDPs and returnees and to provide an alternative to illicit crop production in the area. RSSA worked to achieve these four objectives by rehabilitating 6 km of totally destroyed main canal segments and by reconstructing lateral canals at the end point of the Nangarhar Valley Irrigation Development Project. The siphons RSSA constructed on the main canal are effectively passing water downstream to the end of the main canal.

Canal Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Nangarhar Canal km 64 to km 70	Nangarhar	Shinwar	6	6	100%
Nangarhar Canal Sub Canal 30 and 31	Nangarhar	Muhmand Dara and Shinwar	4.3	4.3	100%
Total:			10.3	10.3	100%
Diversion Dam Construction	Province	District	Dams Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Flood Diversion Dam I Nangarhar Canal	Nangarhar	Shinwar	1	1	100%
Flood Diversion Dam II Nangarhar Canal	Nangarhar	Shinwar	1	1	100%
Total:			1	1	100%
Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Jalalabad Torkham Highway to Main Canal Road	Nangarhar	Muhmand Dara and Shinwar	6	6	100%
Jalalabad Torkham Highway to Canal 29	Nangarhar	Muhmand Dara and Shinwar	5.5	5.5	100%
Jalalabad Torkham Highway to Canal 30, 31	Nangarhar	Muhmand Dara and Shinwar	4	1	100%
Total:			15.5	15.5	100%

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PROJECT COMPLETED

Repair of the Ghazni - Meray Access Road Ghazni Rural Support Program (GRSP) Life of Project: February 17, 2005 - November 30, 2005 Province: Ghazni				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#19 and #22-0002-GRSP	May 25, 2005	Saroj Basnyet	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$1,126,786	\$450,410	\$1,107,376	\$0	\$19,410
Project Description: GRSP has rehabilitated 26.6 km of Loman Qarabagh road and 55 km. of Jaghuri Malistan road. These roads provide access to the main Kabul-Kandahar highway from Ghazni, Andar and Qarabagh districts of Ghazni province.				

Project Accomplishments

The Ghazni Meray Access Road links the on-going Jaghuri Malistan road project in Ghazni with the Kabul Kandahar road. This road is used for exporting cash crops and agricultural products from Ghazni, Jaghuri, Ghazni, Malistan, Arjistan and Shahristan region to urban markets at Kabul, Kandahar and other centers in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Ghazni Meray road passes through the district headquarters at Qarabagh, the main trading area of Qarabagh district. Qarabagh has about 1,500 shops and provides service to population of Qarabagh and other districts located in adjacent to it. It is the main trading area of the district and one of the main reasons for investments on this road is to sustain the momentum of growth that is already taking place.

Through RAMP Job Order's 19 and 22, GRSP has successfully rehabilitated 81.6 km of roads in Ghazni province.

Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Ghazni Merai Access Road (Loman Qarabagh)	Ghazni	Qarabagh	26.6	26.6	100%
Jaghuri Malistan	Ghazni	Jaghuri and Malistan	55	55	100%
Total:			81.6	81.6	100%

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken

GRSP successfully completed all activities in spite of ongoing security concerns throughout the region.

Looking Ahead

The Ministry of Public Works has signed a maintenance agreement to provide resources to appropriately maintain the recently rehabilitated roads.

Project Manager Comments:

GRSP's work on the Loman Qarabagh and Jaghuri Malistan has set an example for target beneficiaries, encouraging local communities to explore the rehabilitation of more road segments with their own investments.



Before: Jaghuri district, Ghazni province.



After: Jaghuri district, Ghazni province.



Before: Jaghuri district, Ghazni province.



After: Jaghuri district, Ghazni province.



Before: Qarabagh District, Ghazni province



After: Qarabagh District, Ghazni province.

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PROJECT COMPLETED

Reconstruction of Roads in Kunduz
Partners in Revitalization and Building (PRB)
Life of Project: February 17, 2004 - August 31, 2005
Province: Kunduz

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#20-0002-PRB	February 17, 2004	Saroj Basnyet	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$869,652	\$12,361	\$869,652	\$0	\$0
Project Description: PRB rehabilitated 55.9 km of primary and secondary roads in Imam Sahib district of Kunduz region.				
Expected Results (at end of project):				
Enhanced Livelihood – 10,800 farm families with increased access to markets.				

Project Accomplishments

PRB successfully rehabilitated 10.8 km of Aaq Masjid, 23.4 km of Alif Berdi, and 4 km of Ismail Qishlaq road corridors in Imam Sahib district of Kunduz province. PRB also constructed 23 and 58 culverts respectively for the Aaq Masjid and Alif Berdi segments. The first two roads include the construction of 23 and 58 culverts respectively.

Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Ismail Qishlaq	Kunduz	Imam Sahib	4	4	100%
Aaq Masjid	Kunduz	Imam Sahib	10.8	10.8	100%
Sayed Ahamad Shah Road	Kunduz	Imam Sahib	17.7	17.7	100%
Alif Berdi	Kunduz	Imam Sahib	23.4	23.4	100%
Total:			55.9	55.9	100%

Challenges Encountered:

Due to poor work quality PRB was requested to dismantle culvert numbers 11, 13, 15 and 16 on Alif Berdi road, and culvert numbers 13, 15 and 21 on Aaq Masjid road. PRB constructed new ones at the organization's own expense.

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PROJECT COMPLETED

Irrigation Rehabilitation in Khewa District Social and Technical Association for Afghanistan Rehabilitation (STAAR) Life of Project: February 17, 2004 - March 31, 2005 Province: Nangarhar				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#21-0002-STAAR	February 17, 2004	Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$336,448	\$27,378	\$336,448	\$0	\$0
Project Description: STAAR completed rehabilitation of 30 km of canals in Khewa district of Nangarhar province – Shegee Canal intake (24 km), and Kotti/Tarran Intake (6 km)				
Expected Impact (at end of project): Enhanced Livelihood – 18,050 hectares receiving improved irrigation; 8,250 farm families with increased production; and 14,252 person-days of employment generated.				

Project Accomplishments

RAMP and STAAR designed this project to prepare for a new era of community economic growth with the aim of providing reliable irrigation to highly productive agriculture lands along the Kunar River. Through the cleaning and de-silting of 30 km of canal, STAAR effectively contributed to delivering water to 18,050 ha of land, assisting more than 8,000 farm families.

STAAR began work in early February 2004, and continued up until June 30, 2004 when rising water levels in the Kunar River prohibited rehabilitation activities. Work resumed on October 1, 2004 and STAAR successfully completed all activities on the Shegee Intake and Kotai and Kachara main canal intakes by March 2005. On July 24, 2005, STAAR handed maintenance of the canal intakes to successfully and handed over to Local and Provincial authorities.



Segment of canal on Khewa, Nangarhar rehabilitated by STAAR.

Canal Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Shegee Canal Intake	Nangarhar	Khewa	24	24	100%
Kotti/Tarran Intake	Nangarhar	Khewa	6	6	100%
Total:			30	30	100%

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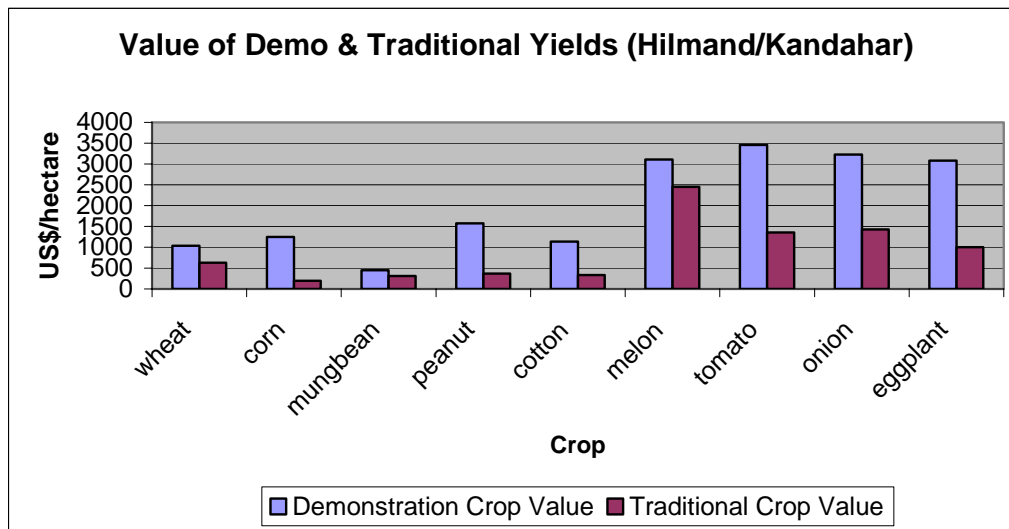
Agricultural Production, Processing & Marketing Project
Central Asia Development Group (CADG)
Life of Project: February 17, 2004 - June 30, 2006
Provinces: Hilmand, Kandahar

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>RAMP Project Manage</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#23-0004-CADG	February 17, 2004	Atiqullah Mohibi	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$6,414,318	\$847,505	\$4,349,718	\$0	\$2,064,600

Project Description: CADG is establishing demonstration farms, contract growing of selected crops, and providing technical assistance and expertise in the areas of agriculture, processing and marketing, application of technologies to crop development, and implementation of drip irrigation plots.

Accomplishments this Quarter

- CADG established winter crop demonstration plots in Hilmand (#81), Kandahar (#29), and Zabul (#2). The crops include wheat, cumin, onion, canola, flax, and pomegranates.
- CADG harvested 43 crop demonstrations in Hilmand, Kandahar, and Zabul provinces.
- The 2004/05 yield results of demonstration plots versus traditionally cultivated plots indicated that tomato, onion, melon, and eggplant provided the highest return (over \$3000/hectare) to the land.



CADG's plots of tomatoes, eggplant, and onions demonstrated the biggest differences in value between traditional and modern planting techniques.

Crop	Province	Season Planted	# of Plots	Average Demo Yield kg/ha	Average Traditional Variety Yield kg/ha	Value of Increased Yield \$
Wheat	Kandahar	Winter	9	4.8	4.0	151
Wheat	Hilmand	Winter	59	6.1	3.7	403
Corn	Hilmand & Kandahar	Summer	28	9.6	1.5	1050
Corn	Zabul	Summer	4	4.2	3.9	37
Green Mung Bean	S.Hilmand	Summer	14	1.3	0.9	114
Sesame	N.Hilmand	Summer	12	1.0	0.3	511
White cumin	Hilmand & Kandahar	Winter	21	467	511	-25
Peanut	Hilmand & Kandahar	Summer	24	3.8	0.9	1164
Cotton	Hilmand	Summer	24	3.4	1.0	823
Melon	Hilmand & Kandahar	Summer	24	25.9	20.4	661
Tomato	Hilmand & Kandahar	Winter	71	40.7	15.9	2107
Onion	Hilmand & Kandahar	Summer	29	37.5	16.6	1797
Egg Plant	S.Hilmand	Summer	18	44.0	14.3	2077
Cucumber	Hilmand & Kandahar	Summer	48	15.5	26.3	-1627

- The prices for dried apricots were low in Asian markets, consequently, all the dried apricots that CADG assisted the farmers in drying and sulphuring and the traders in processing and sorting were sold by the traders on the local market.
- CADG has implemented an arrangement where farmers contribute 20% of the cost in having a plastic tunnel protected agriculture structure installed on their land for demonstration purposes. The total installation cost of the structures is \$2,500 – the remaining \$2,000 is covered by RAMP funding. In Hilmand, 5 farmers contributed \$500 to have a plastic tunnel installed on their land and 12 farmers are paying \$250 up front and \$250 after the harvest. CADG has identified many farmers in Nawa and Central Districts who are willing to pay to have the tunnels installed on their land. In Garmseer and Nad-I-Ali Districts only a few farmers show any interest in paying to have plastic tunnels installed.
- After conducting a successful Sunn pest emergency control campaign last year, CADG, with the help of the Provincial Agricultural Directorate and the PRT in Lashkargar, is planning to implement an emergency control campaign



Protected agriculture structures CADG is making available for farmers in Hilmand and Kandahar

for 2006. A detailed workplan and budget for the Sunn pest control has been approved by RAMP, and the overwintering survey has been conducted by CADG.

- CADG continued its weekly radio programming in Kandahar and Hilmand. Topics included required conditions for seed germination, crop rotation, Sunn pest and integrated pest management.

Looking Forward

Over the next reporting period, CADG will carry out the following activities:

- Continue to find farmers interested in investing and contributing to the installation of protected agriculture structures;
- Establish more winter plot demonstrations;
- Finish pruning grape vines;
- Establish new fruit tree orchards;
- Distribute fruit tree saplings;
- Organize the training for the extension agents for the mechanical control of Sunn pest
- Report the final results of assisting traders in the sales of pomegranates and dried apricots;
- Complete and submit the final results from CADG's adoption rate survey of best practices and Sunn pest survey;
- Conduct field days on summer crops and winter crops in areas where there are no security constraints;
- Extension workers will continue to emphasize adoption of best practices by farmers. For trellis and drip irrigation demonstrations, farmers will be made particularly aware of the costs and benefits of investing in and operating such technologies;
- Monitor the budding and grafting of micro-nurseries' rootstock.

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken

- Security remains a problem as it is preventing extension workers from conducting field days. Farmers fear having CADG expatriates visit them in that it may bring unwanted attention. National extension workers are the only CADG staff visiting the farms and great measures are taken to insure that a minimal number of people know that they work for an international aid organization..
- Farmers are hesitant to invest in plastic tunnels for their crops due to the arranged \$500 (20%) investment contribution. CADG is exploring new deal arrangements with farmers where they only pay \$250 up front for the tunnels and another \$250 after the harvest which will allow farmers more time to pay for these tunnels. CADG anticipates that if farmers have to invest in these tunnels the farmers will put greater effort into producing large quality and quantity crops. If farmers are just given the plastic tunnels, the farmers may not even use these tunnels.

Project Manager Comments

- CADG must provide RAMP the complete results of their marketing activities.
- CADG has been requested by RAMP to work closely with and encourage Afghan entrepreneurs, processors and exporters to develop their marketing activities in both the local and international markets. However, CADG has not worked significantly with private processors and exporters to link them to international markets. This is a continuing problem.

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Agri-Input Dealer Training and Development Project
International Fertilizer Development Company (IFDC)
Life of Project: February 17, 2004 - June 30, 2006
Provinces: Kunduz, Hilmand, Ghazni, Nangarhar, Parwan, Bamyan

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#24-0004-IFDC	February 17, 2004	Abdul Samed Nazari	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$4,139,935	\$260,431	\$2,301,604	\$0	\$1,838,331

Project Description: IFDC is training 2,000 agri-input dealers, improving market transparency through analysis and dissemination of market information, develop business linkages between Afghan and regional suppliers of agri-inputs and establish five private sector associations of agri-input dealers.

Accomplishments this Quarter

Over the past quarter IFDC carried out the following activities through this Job Order:

- Conducted 53 agricultural input training sessions in 20 different provinces with 1,767 input dealers and 654 MAAHF extension agents and NGO staff participating;
- Coordinated a study tour for seven input dealers and four project staff to visit ENGRD, a large fertilizer manufacturer in Pakistan interested in working more closely with input dealers of Afghanistan;
- Met with a representative of United Phosphorus Company from India and a representative from a Turkish company about providing inputs to Afghanistan.
- Distributed 130,665 technical publications to agricultural input dealers, government extension workers and progressive local community farmers in various provinces;
- The project staff worked closely with the RAMP's Agricultural Input Supply Program (AISP) by assisting with seed procurement, identification of dealers for the distribution, and in supplying logistic support. Through this successful activity, IFDC has reached 386 districts in each of Afghanistan's 34 provinces (refer to RAMP Job Order #52);
- Established two more input dealer associations. IFDC has now established a total of six dealer associations in Hilmand, Balkh, Mazar, Nangarhar, Ghazni, and Kabul. The project staff works closely with the six provincial associations to improve their skills, provide leadership for developing a competitive agricultural input business, and coordinate loans for seed and fertilizer.



Members of IFDC's established agri-input dealer associations unloading wheat seeds in Ghor

Kunduz

- The project staff conducted follow-up meetings with the three village-based seed enterprises that took out a total of \$48,850 in IFDC loans against their improved seed stored in their warehouses. The VBSEs repaid all loans on schedule to IFDC. The loans greatly helped the VBSEs in purchasing seed and fertilizer for their fall crops.
- IFDC funded six loans totaling \$111,000 for seed and fertilizer to dealers and associations.
- IFDC developed a new extension poster explaining the benefits of using DAP as compared to other sources of phosphorus fertilizer. The poster was distributed in the Northeast provinces where the use of DAP has been limited due to more price competitive, but lower quality fertilizers being available, and poor basic understanding of fertilizers by many dealers and farmers.

Kandahar/Hilmand

- IFDC provided a \$115,000 loan to a group of input dealers from Kabul, Hilmand and Kandahar for the purchase of agricultural inputs, and a \$10,000 loan to a dealer in Uruzgan for procuring fertilizer. The loans were provided with a service charge of eight percent.

Bamyan

- IFDC, Global Partners, and the Agricultural Department in Bamyan jointly conducted a fertilizer-seed demonstration with several crops (potatoes, cabbage and onions) that are of economic importance in the province. Local agricultural input dealers are actively involved in this demonstration. The demonstration results will be integrated into training materials to be used in future IFDC training programs.

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken

- Security concerns have greatly affected some field work. The ongoing problems continue to make Hilmand, Kandahar, Nimroz, Zabul and Uruzgan high risk areas. Despite the insecurities, routine meetings in the provinces are conducted on a daily basis by the IFDC's local staff.
- Input dealers have experienced countrywide, serious, security challenges from local thieves and area commanders in the past few months. The local provincial governments have provided some assistance to the input dealers.
- There is concern among government officials over the quality of a fertilizer variety purchased by local dealers from Pakistan that was manufactured by a company in the United States. The government officials claim that it is a poor fertilizer and should not be used by the farmers. IFDC obtained a copy of the product analysis and found that the product was acceptable and that it met product specifications.

Looking Forward

Over the next reporting period, IFDC will carry out the following activities:

- Start input training programs in Hilmand and Kandahar;
- Organize trade missions to India, China, Dubai and/or Turkey;
- Develop strategic plans with the board of directors of the provincial input associations; continue efforts in developing a national association;
- Work with the National Bank of Pakistan to develop loan products for the input dealers of Afghanistan;
- Supply credit to input dealer groups and associations in Hilmand and Kandahar, and to other groups or associations in selected provinces;
- Distribute leaflets, booklets, recommendation charts, and other useful extension material to dealers;
- Dedicate more efforts on linking multi-national agricultural chemicals, fertilizer, and seed supply companies with Afghanistan traders and dealers.

Project Manager Comments

- The newly-formed, agricultural input associations should be introduced to the private financial institutions (such as, the National Bank of Pakistan) and assist the associations in getting loans through the private credit channels for importation of greater quantity and good quality of inputs.
- Input credit must begin to flow as soon as possible to agricultural input dealers in Hilmand and Kandahar.
- IFDC must involve more provincial and central ministerial staff of MAAHF in the IFDC training programs.
- More business training should be provided to the larger, more commercially advanced input dealers.
- IFDC should fund more seed loans to more village based seed enterprises (VBSEs).
- IFDC staff should discuss the association development and the revolving loan program with Hilmand and Kandahar dealers as soon as the security situation permits.
- The provincial associations should try to get loans through the private credit channels for importation of greater quantity and good quality of inputs.

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Agriculture Sector Training in Afghanistan
International Arid Lands Construction (IALC)
Life of Project: March 14, 2004 - June 30, 2005
Provinces: Nationwide

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#25-0004-IALC	March 14, 2004	Alem Alemi	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$400,000	\$0	\$400,000	\$0	\$0
Project Description: IALC is providing education on the sustainable management and restoration of arid and semi-arid lands in Afghanistan by funding post-graduate Masters degree programs for 10 Afghan agriculturalists through the University of Peshawar, Pakistan.				

Accomplishments this Quarter

The ten Master's Degree students, five from the Faculty of Agriculture at Kabul University and five from the Faculty of Agriculture at Nangarhar University are continuing their education at the NWFPA Agricultural University, Peshawar, Pakistan. This program is being administered by the Field Office of the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign. All students have completed their required course work and have started research activities related to their thesis topics.

In 2006, the students will take auxiliary courses in Computer Applications, Teaching Methodologies, Research Methodologies, and Operation & Maintenance of Research Stations.



Sakhidad Saleem

B.Sc. 1991 in Plant Protection
 Currently Lecturer at the Faculty of Agriculture of Kabul University
 Research Focus: Mycosis Associated with Root-Knot Nematode on Potato and Tomato in Kabul










Mohammad Saleem Rahimi

B.Sc.:1990 in Plant Protection
 Currently Lecturer at the Faculty of Agriculture of Kabul University
 Research Focus: Sunn pest



Hussain Gul

B.Sc. 1999 in Agricultural Economics
 Currently Lecturer at the Faculty of Agriculture of Kabul University
 Research Focus: Agricultural marketing issues of Afghanistan

	<p>Masood</p> <p>B.Sc:1998 in Horticulture and Forestry Currently Lecturer at the Faculty of Agriculture of Kabul University. Research Focus: Floriculture</p>
	<p>Noor Mohammad</p> <p>B Sc: 1995 in Horticulture and Forestry Currently Lecturer at the Faculty of Agriculture of Kabul University. Research Focus: Watershed managemet</p>
	<p>Najamuddin Najam</p> <p>B.Sc: 1985 in Plant Protection Currently Lecturer at the Faculty of Agriculture of Kabul University. Research Focus: Plant protection</p>
	<p>Mohammad Bashir Dodial</p> <p>B.Sc: 1983 in Agricultural Extension Currently Lecturer at the Faculty of Agriculture of Nangarhar University. Research Focus: Availability and Utilization of Agricultural Extension Services</p>
	<p>Abdul Wahab</p> <p>B.Sc: 1997 in Agronomy Currently Lecturer at the Faculty of Agriculture of Nangarhar University. Research Focus: Oilseed crop (Brassica) through which he plans to develop canola variety.</p>
	<p>Saidajan Abdiani</p> <p>B.Sc: 1988 in Horticulture Currently Lecturer at the Faculty of Agriculture of Nangarhar University. Research Focus: Vegetable Seed Production</p>
	<p>Mir Hatim Niazi</p> <p>B.Sc:1984 in Animal Science Currently Lecturer at the Faculty of Agriculture of Nangarhar University. Research Focus: Medicinal plants to replace antibiotics and vaccines.</p>

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Dried Vegetable Program
Developments Works Canada (DWC)
Life of Project: February 29, 2004 – January 31, 2006
Province: Parwan

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#26-0004-DWC	February 29, 2004	Atiqullah Mohibi	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$3,022,887	\$268,026	\$2,812,431	\$0	\$210,456
Project Description: DWC is developing dried vegetable agribusiness that includes the construction of a 6,200 square foot dehydration factory in Charikar, Parwan to be used for cleaning, dicing, and drying machinery, a warehouse, a small test laboratory, and a classroom for the research farm and training opportunities. DWC's activities and exports respond to an identified market demand in Europe for quality dehydrated vegetables.				

Accomplishments this Quarter

Over the past quarter, DWC carried out the following activities within the contract farming, processing, shipping and sales, vegetable dehydration factory, and research farm components of its RAMP Job Order:

Contract Farming

- DWC has contracted a total of 925 farmers (with a total of 342 hectares allocated for vegetable farming) and 315 women (including 24 widows and those with disabled husbands) from 29 villages to supply the dehydration factory with specific types of vegetables and sun-dried tomatoes, respectfully. DWC has provided these contracted farmers with a total of 7,468 kg of vegetable seeds and 71 mt of fertilizer.
- Of this total, 40 women and 138 farmers were contracted to grow celeriac/cauliflower and coriander, respectively, and supply the vegetables to the factory. DWC provided these farmers with 1,281 kg of coriander seeds and 9,150 kg of DAP fertilizer.
- On the sun-dried tomato project, DWC provided 265 women, 24 widows, and 255 farmers, with 1,100 kg of seed and 11,625 kg of fertilizer.
- 1,290 Farmers participated in DWC training programs highlighting best practices for producing selected vegetables.



DWC's dehydration factory in Parwan is in full operation

Processing, Shipping, and Sales

- DWC processed 140 mt of fresh coriander, spinach, carrots, turnip, cauliflower, green beans, and tomatoes resulting in a total of 16.6 metric tons of dried/dehydrated vegetables ready for export.
- DWC began trial processing of carrots and cauliflower.
- Two containers of 7.25 mt green beans and 8 mt of sun-dried tomatoes, valued at \$31,718 and \$25,200, were shipped to J.L. Priestley & Co. and Sleaford Quality Foods Ltd, respectively. The containers are in the Karachi port soon to be shipped out.

- DWC has packed 7,250 kg of green beans and 3,500 kg of sun-dried tomatoes and they are ready for shipment.

Dehydration Factory

- The factory employees 53 women and 42 men in management, office staff, extension worker, cook/cleaner, driver, and guard positions, who worked on alternating two shifts per day, six days a week. The number of laborers varies from one season to the next.
- DWC recently imported from the UK and installed a new screw steam blancher and bean slicing machine which are now in full operation.
- Improvements were made to the warehouse including the construction of stands to keep the product off the ground and more storage facilities for tools.
- The product quality testing laboratory was installed and tests (to ensure that the product meets international standard requirements) run on the dried and processed products ready for shipment.
- Factory equipment was cleaned and maintained during a planned maintenance period from December 23-29.



Mass production of sun-dried tomatoes at DWC's factory in Parwan

Research Farms - Crop Performance and Best Practices

- Tomatoes – planting with closer spacing between rows gave almost double the yield per unit area compared to the local spacing practice.
- Coriander - growth of this crop was poor either due to the variety or the hot weather.
- Spinach - germination and performance was good
- Leeks - germination and performance was good. DWC evaluated two harvesting methods for this crop.
- Celeriac and cauliflower – crops were transplanted in November.
- Carrots - the growth was good and harvesting was done in December
- A field day was held at the DWC's factory and its research farms for local farmers who were interested in seeing the new types of vegetables being grown. 10 to 30 farmers visited the factory to view an improved spacing approach for vegetable plants, and to gain a better understanding of disease and pest control methods.

Looking Forward

- DWC engaged in discussions with CADG about having some of their contracted farmers in Kandahar and Hilmand provinces plant celeriac for late season harvesting then sending the celeriac to DWC. This would enable DWC to process fresh vegetables for a longer portion of the year.
- DWC extensions teams are distributing seeds to contracted farmers for coriander/cilantro for winter sowing and spring harvesting. The teams will undergo extensive seminars on best practices of these crops.
- The factory will focus on increasing a smoother intake of vegetables and shipment of finished product. It will continue to run as usual, though it will regulate its 24 hour schedule to reflect incoming supplies of vegetables.

Challenges Encountered

- Farmers were reluctant to plant celeriac, a new crop for them, until they saw the results at the research farm.
- Cauliflower did not dry to the international standards required on the first processing trial run but the source of the problem was corrected in subsequent processing.
- Carrot yields at the research farm were good, however, relatively low dried carrot prices will keep the factory from any further carrot processing

Project Manager Comments

- DWC has had problems getting contracted farmers to follow through on supplying their vegetables to the factory and in organizing contracted farmers into the Parwan Growers Association, the Association that will become a 40% shareholder of the Parwan Dehydrates Company. To get farmers to understand the binding nature of the agreement they have signed and to follow through on their contractual agreements will require more meetings and extension services with the farmers and joint discussions with the Governor and the provincial Ministry of Agriculture. However, until the contracted farmers invest in the factory, the contracting system may only be partially successful. To get the farmers to follow through on their contractual agreements and to form the Parwan Growers' Association that invests in the Parwan Dehydrates Company, a combination of incentives may be needed.
- Improvements were made to the warehouse including construction of stands to keep the product off the ground and more storage facilities for tools. However, DWC should continue to make improvements in the hygiene and handling of products in the factory. The laboratory should become fully functioning and effective in order to provide the necessary testing results to satisfy the European market and other buyers.
- DWC must form the farmers' association as soon as possible in order to address ownership issues and to organize the overall management and operation of the factory.
- DWC should, among other things, share their market information and opportunities with the contracted farmers so that the farmers are encouraged to establish the farmers' association
- DWC still needs to improve their supply management in order to maintain an adequate supply of vegetables throughout the year. More specifically, DWC needs to work closely with their contracted farmers to improve the coordination in supplying the vegetables to the factory and the farmers' understanding that they must (as per the contract) bring their vegetables to the factory
- DWC should update its business plan so that the factory's projected profitability can be assessed by RAMP management.

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PROJECT COMPLETED**Western Afghanistan Agribusiness Program****Catholic Relief Services (CRS)****Life of Project: March 14, 2004 - June 30, 2005****Province: Hirat**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#27-0004-CRS	March 14, 2004	Abdul Qudous	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$426,585	\$43,754	\$409,644	\$0	\$16,941

Project Description: CRS was working to create new market opportunities for three high-value crops (tomato, saffron, cumin) and provide related technical assistance to producers and agricultural processors in Hirat province. CRS established crop-specific Technical Working Groups (TWG) to conduct market assessments, disseminate market information, and facilitate business contracts among stakeholders for targeted crops, and provided training in food safety and quality standards for producer groups and traders; market opportunity identification and market supply chain analysis for producer groups and TWGs; crop improvement, processing technologies, handling and transport for producer groups.

Project Accomplishments

CRS activities under RAMP ended on June 30, 2005. Following, are CRS' key accomplishments grouped by commodity – Tomato, Cumin, and Saffron. CRS was very effective in developing the growth of small-scale agri-processing businesses, focusing particularly on women entrepreneurs. The organization successfully linked processors and exporters with financial institutions (microfinance and banks) so they could apply for loans to expand their businesses.

Tomato

- Conducted 49 demonstrations of three improved varieties (Pearson, Super Chief, and PS Palmador). 12 extension workers provided technical assistance to the farmers growing tomatoes, cumin, and saffron in Injil and Guzara districts
- Constructed 60 greenhouse demonstrations (25m x 4m, each costing less than \$600/greenhouse) on farmers' fields in Injil and Guzara districts in Hirat province. CRS effectively linked those farmers interested in adopting the greenhouse technology demonstrated, with AKDN that offered credit of up to \$500 per greenhouse.
- Established 5 centers in Injil and Guzara for training 100 women in jam, juice concentrate, and tomato paste production. CRS focused the training on strategic planning for the women's businesses and sanitation control. CNFA is providing a hand-crank juicer for each woman. The local Super Cola factory in the Hirat Industrial Park agreed to supply (at a low price) juice bottles to the women's centers.
- Assisted 58 women in producing and selling tomato paste to a local retailer who is helping them improve their labeling.

Cumin

- Conducted 156 cumin demonstrations with farmers in Injil and Guzara districts.
- The test results on the 10-kg cumin sample sent to the US indicated that the cumin was high in volatile oil (a good thing) but there was some contamination that concerned the buyer who received the shipment. A follow-up, one-ton shipment of cumin was sent to a New Jersey (USA) buyer by CRS in collaboration with a cumin exporter. The buyer was ready to pay \$1,980/mt. The domestic market for cumin is very small while the international market is dominated by India, Syria, and Turkey. Last year, up to 1000 mt of cumin was exported to regional markets.
- Cumin continues to be cleaned at the plant owned by Ramin Zabadi in Hirat City. He received a working capital loan from the RAMP-supported Afghan International Bank (AIB) for purchasing cumin from the farmers - many of them receiving technical assistance from CRS. Most cumin brought by farmers or traders for cleaning has 5-10% foreign matter. The cleaning charges represent about 14% of the value of the cumin.

Saffron

- CRS conducted 10 saffron demonstrations with farmers in Injil and Guzara districts.
- Saffron is a perennial crop that takes at least three years to reach significant yields. The saffron produced by 10 farmers that CRS worked with was contaminated with e.coli. However, many international buyers irradiate the saffron before using it since most saffron is contaminated.

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Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project: Surveys and Designs
Bakhtar Construction and Rehabilitation Agency(BCRC), Afghan Rehabilitation and Agriculture
Organization (ARAO), Qoba Construction Company (QCC)
Life of Project: February 13, 2005 - December 31, 2005
Province: Hirat

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#27 - 0002-BCRC, ARAO, QCC	February 13, 2004	M. Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$719,309	\$395,564	\$637,599	\$0	\$81,710

Project Description: CRS, BCRC, ARAO, and QCC have been conducting a range irrigation surveys and designing irrigation structures/bridges in Hirat province. The deliverables produced through these purchase orders contribute to the construction components carried out by other Implementing Partners contracted to rehabilitate irrigation systems in Hirat.

Through Job Order #27, RAMP manages several implementing partners who are working rehabilitate irrigation systems and bridges throughout Hirat province. By August 2005, RAMP's partners –BCRC, ARAO, and QCC – completed the following survey and design components of this multi-faceted infrastructure job order:

Accomplishments this Quarter

BCRC – Design and Survey

Purchase Order Ceiling Price: \$20,900

BCRC's main activity was to conduct a preliminary survey of Injil and Guzara Canals, prepare a map showing location of canals, lengths, location of structures, weak points of canals, and describe condition of existing structures.

As its primary deliverables, BCRC prepared maps of the Injil and Guzara Canals, listing the locations of all irrigation structures, evaluating their existing condition and estimated rehabilitation cost, and a list number and names of villages and number of families benefiting from this irrigation project.

ARAO – Design and Survey

Purchase Order Ceiling Price: \$20,953

ARAO conducted surveys and designs for a combined 32 km of road over 8 bridges crossing the Injil and Guzara canals in Hirat province.

ARAO has created designs for the following structures:

- Taryak and Ab. Baqi Bridges (15 km)
- Chale Nishin Bridge (3 km)
- Khalif Bridge (2 km)
- Kurte Shali Khana Bridge (5 km)
- Qazi Bridge (2 km)
- Pai Chinar Bridge (2 km)
- Mula Moazan Bridge (2 km)
- Ghafar Bridge (1 km)



RAMP partners conducting surveys of existing irrigation systems in Hirat.



ARAO has completed its designs, and RAMP is currently reviewing bids from local contractors to carry out the rehabilitation activities.

QCC – Design and Survey

Purchase Order Ceiling Price: \$27,456

QCC established bench marks along the length of Guzara (approximate length - 70 km), Injil (approximate length - 45 km), and Haft Qutb (approximate length - km) canals, marked their specific locations on a map, recorded elevation of all existing structures, and illustrated cross sections for each canal at every 100 m or less.

Although QCC's evaluations are on going, RAMP is relying on QCC's established benchmarks for constructing proposal bids for rehabilitation activities along the three canals.

Looking Ahead

The partners have completed almost all designs and RAMP has begun reviewing and awarding construction contracts to a number of firms through competitive bidding processes.

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken

Partners have identified that the lack of available data and records and insufficient technical capability of GoA staff working in the region is a big problem in designing irrigation structures. Thankfully, the survey results will provide the most up-to-date assessments of the irrigation systems, which RAMP will readily share with the GoA representatives.

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Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project
Batoor Design and Construction Incorporation (BDCI)
Life of Project: November 25, 2005 – May 30, 2006
Province: Hirat

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#27-0002-BDCI	November 25, 2005	M. Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$489,997	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$0	\$449,997

Project Description: BDCI is constructing the Trishriza 1 Arch aqueduct on Ziaratjah branch of the Guzara canal and Trishriza 2 aqueduct on Joi Malan branch of Guzara Canal. BDCI is also repairing the Kurte Soflak Paymala Awal aqueduct in Trishriza and constructing/repairing the Kurt Khujanur RCC aqueduct in Kurt Khujanur in Hirat province.

Accomplishments this Quarter

BDCI started work in December 2005, building the temporary pipe aqueduct to maintain irrigation flow during construction for Trishriza 1 Arch aqueduct, and demolishing the old structure for the Kurt Khujanur 2.

Aqueduct construction/ repairing	Province	District	Structures Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Trishriza 1	Hirat	Guzara	1	Work began Dec 2005	0%
Trishriza 2	Hirat	Guzara	1	Work began Dec 2005	0%
Kurt Khujanur	Hirat	Guzara	1	Work began Dec 2005	0%
Kurte Soflak Paymala Awal	Hirat	Guzara	1	Work began Dec 2005	0%
Total:			4	0	100%

Looking Ahead

After diverting irrigation flow to the temporary structures, BDCI will start demolition of the Trishriza 1 aqueduct.

Project Manager Comments

Ministry of Culture has asked RAMP that BDCI construct the new aqueduct at Trishriza No. 1 with the arch shape as the old, historic structure. BDCI is following designs to have the new structure aesthetically reflect its predecessor.



BDCI engineers inspecting foundation of existing irrigation structure in need of repair.

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Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project
Bureau of Design, Construction Implementing Services (BDCIS)
Life of Project: February 13, 2005 to January 31, 2006
Province: Hirat

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#27-0002-BDCIS	November 23, 2005	M. Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$400,000	\$124,611	\$347,836	\$0	\$52,164

Project Description: BDCIS surveyed 12 bridges on the Guzara and Injil canals and subsequently created construction designs for 10 bridges. BDCIS has nearly completed construction of six bridges crossing these canals.

Accomplishments this Quarter

RAMP originally contracted BDCIS to construct seven bridges across the Guzara and Injil canal. Unfortunately, due to the high incidence of mines in the area, BDCIS cancelled work on the Abdullah Bridge crossing the Injil canal.

Bridge construction / rehabilitation	Province	District	Structures Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Kurt e Shalikhana bridge, Guzara Canal	Hirat	Guzara	1	1	100%
Tariak vehicle bridge, Injil Canal	Hirat	Injil	1	1	100%
Tariak foot bridge, Injil Canal	Hirat	Injil	1	1	100%
Abdul Baqi Khan bridge, Injil Canal	Hirat	Injil	1	1	100%
Abdullah bridge, Injil Canal	Hirat	Injil	Project cancelled due to mine threats		N/A
Sofiabad bridge, Injil Canal	Hirat	Injil	1	1	100%
Ghafar bridge, Injil Canal	Hirat	Injil	1	1	100%
Total:			6	6	100%

Looking Ahead

BDCIS and RAMP are planning an inauguration event for the completion of the bridges in January 2006.

Project Manager Comments

BDCIS designed and constructed these bridges to a high standard and their will significantly contribute to solving transportation problems in the region.

Following are pictures of BDCIS's recently constructed bridges Hirat province.



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Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project
Reconstruction Authority for Afghanistan (RAFA)
Life of Project: February 13, 2005 - April 16, 2006
Province: Hirat

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#27-0002-RAFA	February 13, 2004	M. Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$270,638	\$66,337	\$96,337	\$0	\$174,301
Project Description: RAFA is constructing water control and sediment flush-out structures for Injil and Haft Qulb Canals in Hirat province				

Accomplishments this Quarter

RAFA's construction work was significantly delayed due to land issues and the efforts focused on mitigating demands from local communities. RAFA has since resolved all pertinent issues and began construction in December 2005.

Water Control Structure Construction	Province	District	Structures Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Injil Canal	Hirat	Injil	1	Work began in Dec 2005	0%
Haft Qulb	Hirat	Injil	1	Work began in Dec 2005	0%
Total:			4	0	100%

Looking Ahead

RAFA has fully mobilized activities on site, and will continue excavating diversion canals over the next reporting period.

Project Manager Comments

RAMP will add approximately \$170,000 to the project budget to address community concerns about floods and will build additional flood protection structures, guide bunds and some gabion work and at the spillway of the structure.



Project site in Injil district, Hirat where RAFA has begun rehabilitation activities.

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Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project**Enkeshaf Abady Construction Company (EACC)****Life of Project: July 17, 2005 - December 30, 2005****Province: Hirat**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#27-0002-EACC	July 17, 2004	M. Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$116,068	\$24,329	\$41,739	\$0	\$74,329
Project Description: EACC is reconstructing/rehabilitating 4 bridges – Chal Nashin, Khalifa, Ghazi, and Molay Moazen - on the Guzara canal in Hirat province.				

Accomplishments this Quarter

Over the past quarter, EACC has moved progressively forward on the construction of construction of its four dams. At each project site in Guzara district, EACC carried out the following activities:

Chal Nashin Bridge

- Excavation works has been completed.
- Care and handling of water has been done.
- Plastic bag for water keeping the normal flowing of water.
- Some maintenance of access has been done,
- North and south abutments with their wing walls are completed.

Khalifa Bridge

- Excavation works has been for one abutment, and is ready for foundation works.
- Care and handling of water has been done.
- Demolishing of the former bridge has been done.
- Plastic bag for keeping the normal flowing of water
- Some maintenance of access has been done
- North and south abutments with their wing walls have completed and filling is under the process



Project site in Guzara, Hirat where RAFA is reconstructing bridges.

Ghazi Bridge

- Excavation works has been for one abutment, and is ready for foundation works.
- Care and handling of water has been done.
- Demolishing of the former bridge has been done.
- Plastic bag for water keeping the normal flowing of water
- Some maintenance of access has been done
- North and south abutment with its wing walls has completed

Molay Moazen Bridge

- Excavation works has been for one abutment, and is ready for foundation works.
- Care and handling of water has been done.
- Demolishing of the former bridge has been done.
- Plastic bag for water keeping the normal flowing of water
- Some maintenance of access has been done
- South abutment with its wing walls and concrete lying of RCC foundation of north abutment

Bridge Reconstruction	Province	District	Structures Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Chal Nashin Bridge	Hirat	Guzara	1	Work began in Aug 2005	N/A
Khalifa Bridge	Hirat	Guzara	1	Work began in Aug 2005	N/A
Ghazi Bridge	Hirat	Guzara	1	Work began in Aug 2005	N/A
Molay Moazen Bridge	Hirat	Guzara	1	Work began in Aug 2005	N/A
Total:			4	0	N/A

Looking Ahead

EACC plans to pre-case RCC beams on site and then installed at all four project sites.

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken

Shortages of cement in local markets, and sever fluctuations in canal water levels has hindered EACC's progress. Through recent site inspections, RAMP project managers have been assured that work is continuing at a steady rate.

Project Manager Comments

RAMP will need to extend the period of performance of EACC's, as the partner's work was not completed by December 2005 as scheduled.

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Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project
Social & Technical Association for Afghanistan Rehabilitation (STAAR)
Life of Project: November 22, 2005 - May 30, 2006
Province: Hirat

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#27-0002-STAAR	November 22, 2005	M. Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$417,613	\$41,761	\$65,701	\$23,940	\$351,912

Project Description: STAAR is constructing Bande Rig Siphon on Injil Canal crossing under Pashtan Wash located in Hirat province and sited on Injil canal. The siphon is to carry water across the dry wash in a concrete flume. Flow of the canal shall be maintained throughout the period of construction.

Accomplishments this Quarter

STAAR recently mobilized at project site and negotiated availability of land for canal diversions with local farming communities. STAAR has begun its initial excavation work at the Bande Rig Siphon site.

Siphon Construction	Province	District	Structures Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Bande Rig Siphon	Hirat	Injil	1	Work began in Dec 2005	N/A
Total:			1	0	100%

Project Manager Comments

STAAR's construction of this siphon will solve one of the biggest problems of Injil Canal. Floods every year were damaging the canal and its structures and filling the canal.



Project site in Injil district, Hirat where STAAR is mobilizing workers.

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Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project Taraqi Construction Company (TCC) Life of Project: December 14, 2005 - March 30, 2006 Province: Hirat				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#27-0002-TCC	December 14, 2005	M. Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$231,853	\$23,185	\$23,185	\$0	\$208,668
Project Description: TCC is constructing 3 water dividers and 31 outlets from Station 20+622 up to Station 25+951 of the Injil canal in Hirat province.				

Accomplishments this Quarter

RAMP awarded this contract to TCC in the middle of December 2005. By the end of the last quarter, TCC had begun mobilizing its team to begin construction work.

Water Divider / Outlet Construction	Province	District	Structures Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Injil Canal Water Dividers	Hirat	Injil	3	TCC is mobilizing to begin work	N/A
Injil Canal Outlets	Hirat	Injil	31	TCC is mobilizing to begin work	N/A
Total:			34	0	N/A

Project Manager Comments

This is an important project for rehabilitation of Injil Canal in Hirat Province. Construction of water dividers and outlets ensure equal distribution of water to all farmers at head, middle and tail reached of the canal.

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Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project
Afghan Rehabilitation and Agricultural Organization (ARAO)
Life of Project: December 14, 2005 - March 30, 2006
Province: Hirat

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#27-0002-ARAO	December 14, 2005	M. Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$181,331	\$18,133	\$18,133	\$0	\$163,198
Project Description: ARAO is constructing 2 retaining walls, 2 water dividers and 15 outlets from Station 20+622 up to Station 25+951 of the Injil canal in Hirat province.				

Accomplishments this Quarter

RAMP awarded the contract to ARAO in the middle of December 2005. ARAO is mobilizing its team, and has begun shipping construction material to the project sites.

Retaining Wall Construction	Province	District	Walls Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Injil Canal	Hirat	Injil	2	ARAO is mobilizing to begin work	N/A
Total:			2	0	N/A
Water Divider Construction	Province	District	Structures Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Injil Canal	Hirat	Injil	2	ARAO is mobilizing to begin work	N/A
Total:			2	0	100%
Outlet Construction	Province	District	Km of Roads Rehabilitated		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Injil Canal	Hirat	Injil	N/A	ARAO is mobilizing to begin work	Injil Canal
Total:			2	0	100%

Project Manager Comments

This is an important project for rehabilitation of Injil Canal in Hirat Province. Construction of water dividers and outlets ensure equal distribution of water to all farmers at head, middle and tail reached of the canal.

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Grain Postharvest Training, Storage and Milling in Afghanistan The Grain Industry Alliance Life of Project: March 14, 2004 to March 31, 2006 Provinces: Kunduz, Hilmand, Parwan, Nangarhar, Ghazni, Kabul, Kandahar, Hirat				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#28-0002-GIA	March 14, 2004	M. Alem Alemi	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$3,711,820	\$0	\$2,665,554	\$500,000	\$1,046,266
Project Description: : GIA is providing training opportunities and demonstration sites for grain cleaning, storage and handling of grain, developing 25 community level storage sites, 25 full scale farm demonstration units and 25 small farm demonstration units. Additionally, GIA is working with other RAMP partners to establish a network of refrigerated storage and transport facilities to retain the value of fresh produce.				

Accomplishments this Quarter

From October to December 2005, GIA carried out the following activities in each of its target provinces:

Kabul Province

- Facilitated and partially funded the construction of the nut processing building for the Ghorband Farmers Association. Construction of building is now complete.
- Friolatina (the manufacturer and supplier of RAMP's cold storage units) trained Afghan technicians in assembling and disassembling the cold storage units.
- Assessed Proforma's financials which indicate that stand alone (cold storage units with generators) are profitable for short-term storage (to capture off-season fresh produce prices) of fruits and vegetables.
- Paid Friolatina the down payment for 20 more cold storage units to be imported into Afghanistan and used for adding value to fresh fruits, vegetables, and other agricultural products
- Continued hands-on training of lab technicians in aflatoxin testing at the Raisin & Other Dried Fruit Export Institute's laboratory in Kabul. Sent two technicians from the Institute to India for training in microbiological testing for Salmonella, e.coli, and listeria.



One of GIA's newly constructed storage facilities.

Kunduz Province

- The warehouses owned by the four Crop Producer Associations (CPAs) in Imam Sahib, Char Dara, Kunduz City, and Khan Abad Districts are being used for storing the Association members' grain.
- IFDC agreed to provide credit to the four Crop Producer Associations in Kunduz.
- Pallets were provided to CPAs and VBSEs with 50% financial contribution from the members.
- GIA provided pallet jacks and weigh scales to CPAs and VBSEs.
- The truck weigh scales, located at the entrance to the city of Kunduz and in front of the new Kunduz flour mill, have been in heavy use every day
- World Food Program donated flour fortification equipment and premix feeders to be used in the new Kunduz flour mill.
- CPA's held preliminary elections to select members for their Executive Boards.

Kandahar Province

- GIA and staff from the Dried Fruit and Nut Export Institute met with the Governor and the Chief of the Chamber of Commerce in Kandahar. The Chamber of Commerce offered one room on a temporary basis at the Chamber for establishing the Institute's testing laboratory. Additionally, the Governor of Kandahar requested 3000 square meters of land for establishing a permanent location for the testing laboratory in Kandahar.
- GIA staff monitored the Kandahar Dried Fruit and Nut Association's nut processing warehouse being constructed by Rahmani Construction Company in the Shoorandam area of Kandahar. The construction work is more than 45% complete and will be completed the next quarter. Construction materials were of good quality but the steel bars used by the contractor were 12 and 14 mm thick instead of 16 mm thickness as designed by GIA. The GIA engineer advised the contractor to correct any construction mistakes.

Hilmand Province

- The PRT-funded construction work on jam, and pickle processing plant for the Hilmand Widows Association is about 50% complete.
- GIA tendered construction work for the warehouses of the Bolan Farmers Association and the Nad-i-Ali Processors Association in Hilmand. GIA elected PEACE and MRO contractors to construct the facilities. Construction work started and the progress on construction of the Bolan Farmers Association's warehouse is 15% complete; the Nad-i-Ali Processors Association's warehouse is 50% complete.
- GIA assisted in finalizing by-Laws for the Bolan Farmers Association.
- The Mayor of Lashkargar agreed to give the Central Market Traders Association 3 hectares to construct their warehouse for storing agricultural inputs.

Hirat Province

- GIA awarded contractor Agawam (ARCC) a contract to construct a warehouse at a potato chip processing plant in Karokh district. The plant construction is 20% completed.

Looking Ahead

- Throughout the next six months, GIA will be installing 13 cold storage units in Kandahar, Hilmand and Kabul. Following is GIA's tentative plan for implementation.

Province	Number	Owner	Purpose
Kandahar	2	Fresh Fruit Traders Association	Cooling, processing, storing
Hilmand	2	Bolan Farmers Association	Processing, cooling, and storing vegetables and/or fruits
Hilmand	2	Nad-e-Ali Farmers Association	Processing, cooling, and storing of vegetables
Hilmand	2	Widows Association	Jam and tomato sauce processing
Hilmand	2	Greshk Farmer Association	Processing, cooling, and storing vegetables and/or fruits
Hilmand	2	Central Market Traders Association	Processing/storing various products
Kabul	1	Customs at the Int'l Airport	Temporary storage of commodities to be exported
Total	13		

- GIA will order, import, and install 20 more cold storage units will by March 2006.
- GIA will be relocating 12 holding bins that are not being used by the initially selected farmers to areas where there are farmers keenly interested in using the bins for storing grain.

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken

- Progress in establishing processing plants in Hilmand was delayed for security reasons. GIA has kept its project manager in Hilmand and the plant construction is moving ahead.
- Due to the present weak organizational capacity of the farmers' and traders' associations in various provinces who own the storage and/or processing plants, significant technical assistance will be needed to improve the handling, sorting, grading, storing, processing, and packaging of their agricultural produce and to transform the associations into viable and sustainable entities. For example, more organizational development is needed to organize the four Crop Producer Associations in Kunduz into viable and cohesive associations. GIA will provide the necessary training for the members of these associations.

Project Manager Comments

- More training will be needed by GIA to develop the associations into sustainable warehousing/processing businesses.
- GIA must focus more efforts in Kandahar and Hilmand and start the construction work of the warehouses and processing plants. GIA will need to conduct training on the use of warehouses, cold storage units, and processing centers.
- GIA should hire an expatriate to develop manuals in English/Dari/Pashto and conduct training on warehouse use and management and post-harvest cleaning, grading, sorting, bagging, handling, storage, and marketing of cereals, vegetables, and fruits.
- GIA should establish a market information system to assist the CPAs and other farmer and/or trader associations in timely and successful marketing.

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Grape Revitalization for Afghanistan Productivity and Empowerment Roots of Peace (RoP)

Life of Project: March 15, 2004 - June 30, 2006

Provinces: Parwan, Nangarhar, Ghazni, Hilmand and Kandahar

Job Order No.	Date of Award	Project Manager	USAID CTO	USAID CO
JO#29-0004-RoP	March 15, 2004	Abdul Samad Nazari	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
Ceiling Price	Quarter Expenditures	Cumulative Expenditures	Accruals to Date	Balance
\$5,899,252	\$867,256	\$5,161,975	\$375,813	\$737,277

Project Description: RoP is providing extension services for Afghan farmers and training for MAAH extension agents, developing 10 model farms for best practices, creating market/collection centers, improving grape vine propagation; establishing 3 Farmer Owned Businesses (FOBs); and promoting commercial sales management to re-establish and develop local, regional, and international markets. Roots of Peace has assisted Afghanistan increase its exports of fresh fruit by helping local traders enter new markets and expand sales in existing markets in the region. Roots of Peace activities have led to exports to the following markets: India, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and United Arab Emirates (Dubai).

Accomplishments this Quarter

From October to December 2005, RoP carried out the following activities focused on grape/raisin, pomegranate and nut marketing, production and processing.

Grape/Raisin Marketing

- RoP exported 901.5 mt of good quality fresh grapes, pomegranates, and raisins to the following international markets.

Date exported	Fruit Type	Grape Exporter	Exported to	Quantity (mt)
2-Oct-05	Grapes	Sherzada Khan	Dubai, UAE	2
4-Oct-05	Grapes	Zabihullah	Dubai, UAE	2
10-Oct-05	Grapes	Zabihullah	Kuwait	2.05
13-Oct-05	Grapes	Zabihullah	Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	5.10
14-Oct-05	Grapes	Ashk Co.Ltd	Kuwait	6.50
16-Oct-05	Grapes	Zabihullah	Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	3.77
17-Oct-05	Grapes	Ashk Co.Ltd	Kuwait	6.50
19-Oct-05	Grapes	Ashk Co.Ltd	Kuwait	6.50
21-Oct-05	Grapes	Ashk Co.Ltd	Kuwait	6.50
26-Oct-05	Grapes	RoP	Kiev, Ukraine	0.055 (sample)
27-Oct-05	Grapes	Sayed Idris(KTC)	Dubai, UAE	0.5049
Oct/Nov	Pomegranates	FFEAK	Delhi	50
1-Nov-05	Fresh/Dried fruits	RoP	Washington DC, USA	0.055 (sample)
6-Nov-05	Grapes	Sayed Idris(KTC)	Delhi, India	0.256
13-Nov-05	Grapes	Sayed Idris(KTC)	Frankfurt, Germany	6.5
15-Nov-05	Grapes	Mohammad Nadir	Moscow, Russia	0.51
19-Dec-05	Red raisin	Mohd. Nadir	Moscow, Russia	401
29-Dec-05	Red raisin	Mohd. Nadir	Kiev, Ukraine	400.5
Total:				901.5

- RoP used the Mirbachakot market center in Kabul province to cool, store, and package grapes for export. Women were employed to do the grape processing and packaging;
- Worked closely with Mirbachakot Farmers Association in getting its legal status and in organizing its finances;

- Completed the up-grading of the Rahmat Fruit Processing Corporation's raisin processing plant in Kabul;
- Continued up-grading the Bagram Fruit Packaging Company raisin processing plant in Charikar and the Amiri Raisin Plant in Kabul province.

Grape/Raisin Extension program

Shamali Plains

- RoP's 25 extension workers provided technical assistance to 7,070 farmers.
- 30 local community farmers attended RoP's field days, 220 farmers attended group meetings, and more than 1,111 women were given technical assistance by RoP's female extension agent.
- RoP trained extension agents of Shakardara, Guldara and Farza Districts on wrapping of full vines with PVC film in order to protect clusters from weather injuries. Extension agents transferred the technology to farmers who were able to protect their grapes and sell their grapes later in the year.
- RoP rehabilitated 45 traditional Kishmis Khanas (mud houses for drying grapes to green raisins).
- Five new "Sherzai type" Kishmish Khana were constructed this season by farmers with a cash contribution from RoP equal to 50% of the material costs of the buildings.
- Installed and began operation of, metallic, Indian-type kishmish khanas in Bagram and Charikar.
- Distributed 1 harvest clipper, 3 natural-fiber mats (for drying grapes) and 3 trays (for transport of grapes from the fields) to 39 widows who grow grapes in Charikar District. The equipment will help simplify their work and improve the quality of their final product.
- Established 41 trellising demos of Taiffee variety in 4 districts of Shamali Plains.
- Made an agreement with selected Shamali grape producers to take cuttings from their Taiffee variety grapes (highest demanded grapes) for top-grafting in other farmers' vineyards.
- Trained extension agents from Shamali Plains, Ghazni and Kandahar in "group mobilization" to be able to reach more farmers.



Kismishi grapes sun drying in Shamali plains.



Spray nozels for cleaning grapes/raisins recently installed at processing plant in Charikar, Parwan.

Kandahar

- Three extension agents provided 931 farmers technical assistance in preparing the fields for next year's production activities, building new kishmish khanas, finding mother gardens for purchasing propagation wood, and finding farmers interested in establishing trellises and nurseries on their farms.
- Continued construction of the new model kishmish khanas in Kandahar province.

Ghazni

- RoP's extension agent provided technical assistance to 374 farmers

Nut Production, Processing and Marketing

- RoP continued providing technical assistance and extension services (795 farmers participated in 55 field days) and conducted 22 spraying and pruning demonstrations (287 farmers participated) in Parwan (Ghorband District), Samangan, and Balkh provinces;
- Introduced modern almond harvesting methods in which the almonds are dried in the trees instead of picking them green on the ground;
- Gathered production and marketing information from 1,573 farmers;
- Promoted a 5 mt almond shipment to Saudi Arabia;
- Led an Afghan delegation, including 5 nut exporters, to the India International Trade Fair (IITF) in New Delhi (India) from November 13 – 19, 2005. RoP held a seminar (attended by Afghan exporters and Ministry of Commerce staff) and reception for Indian importers at the Afghan Embassy in New Delhi. Discussions covered trade issues, including tariffs, transportation, market acceptance, banking, and packaging.
- Developed 6 logo ideas that could be used for “branding on packaging and in brochures to identify dried fruit and nut products of Afghan origin”. These were circulated to three NGO’s (RoP, OTF and FLAG), their respective associations of traders, and the Ministry of Commerce for comments.



RoP representatives setting up booth at Indian International Trade Fair in New Delhi on November 14, 2005

Looking Forward

Marketing

- Prepare an implementation plan for installing and operating nut processing plant equipment and machinery in the three nut processing plants in Mazar, Kabul, and Kandahar
- Continue providing technical support to the Raisin and Other Dried Fruit Export Institute
- Continue up-grading of selected raisin processing plants
- Lead trade missions to Moscow and Ukraine to follow up on marketing opportunities for Afghan high-quality raisins, nuts, and fresh grapes.

Extension

- From sixteen private nurseries, established through RoP grape development program, 220,850 Shindokhani and Taifee cuttings will be sold/distributed to farmers who are interested/willing to establish new vineyards in the coming spring.
- Collect grafting material of grape variety “Hosseini dara” from Peer Nakhshi District of Samangan province, store the material at RoP’s Bagram Market Center, and use the materials for grafting in the spring
- Continue construction of new model kishmish khana with raisin producers in major grape growing areas in Shamali Plains and Kandahar
- Establish additional trellising demonstrations
- Continue training extension agents in “group mobilization” techniques.

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken

- Exporting grapes from Shamali is a big marketing challenge since 90% of the grapes are Kishmishi, a variety grown for raisin production and not well suited for the export market which pays well for larger grapes. The remaining 10% of the Shamali crop is Taifee, Shindokhani, and others that sell locally for a relatively high price, a price too high for profitable export. As a result, RoP and participating traders had a difficult time finding quantities of exportable grapes from Shamali Plains' vineyards. Actual exports were a fraction of what was expected
- Would-be traders who were interested in packaging grapes at the Mirbachakot Processing Plant felt that the hired women, hired to sort and package grapes, would make problems for them, would not be able to do good work, and would be costly.
- A frost on October 20th in Samangan finished the harvest season there and prevented a planned test shipment of Taifee grapes via refrigerated container to Bangladesh and a planned non-refrigerated shipment via land to Delhi. After canceling the shipment to Bangladesh, RoP was able to talk the Bangladesh importer into coming to Afghanistan to set up his own shipments next year

Project Manager Comments

- RoP should assist grape growers in establishing grape/raisin producer associations and assist them in accessing credit through creative means so that the farmers can afford adequate inputs;
- RAMP management needs to analyze the results of the grape exports from Kandahar to determine how profitable the shipments to the various countries

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PROJECT COMPLETED

Locust Control Program, Northern Afghanistan Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Life of Project: March 11, 2004 – December 31, 2004 Project Sites: Balkh, Samangan, Baghlan, Kunduz and Takhar				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#30-0004-FAO	March 11, 2004	Abdul Samad Nazari	Daniel Miller	Kyle Newkirk
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$606,651	\$0	\$606,651	\$0	\$0
Project Description: FAO implemented emergency locust control activities in northern Afghanistan and renovated the laboratory of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD) in the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry.				

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PROJECT COMPLETED

Locust Control Program Northern Afghanistan GOAL Life of Project: March 11, 2004 - December 31, 2004 Provinces: Balkh, Baghlan, Kunduz, Takhar, Samangan				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#31-004-GOAL	March 11, 2004	A. Samad Nazari	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$423,383.38	\$0	\$ 423,383.38	\$0	\$0
Project description: GOAL implemented a program to mitigate the impact of Moroccan locusts on rural livelihoods in Northern Afghanistan. Key activities included the chemical control of locusts with the provision of technical support, plastic sheeting, nets, barrels for water, ploughs and tents; mobilization of the rural population to areas of locust infestation, through the provision of transportation; full logistical support to the FAO and Ministry of Agriculture for chemical control intervention; monitoring of locust-infested sites and program advances through constant feedback, crop damage assessments, and locust egg-bed surveys; and final evaluation and provision of data for the locust database, the FAO, and AIMS.				

Project Accomplishments

From March to December 2004, FAO and GOAL worked together through RAMP Job Orders 30 and 31 to control locust infestations in northern Afghanistan, and to renovate the laboratory of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD) in the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry. Renovations at the laboratory are now complete and allow the MAAHF to more effectively identify crop pests and diseases.

Locust Control

FAO and GOAL received pesticide from other donor sources (not USAID), and treated hatching beds throughout the regions. The partners recognized good results using diflubenzuron.

Sunn pest

FAO and GOAL provided training to Sunn pest control extension workers in Jawzjan (14) and Sar-i-Pol (13) and Faryab (19).

The project also funded a ten-day mission by the President of PPQD and three of his staff, to enable them to participate in the training courses and the surveys. Very large numbers of *Dolycoris* (a species of Sunn pest) have been observed migrating from the hibernation sites and the local authorities are extremely concerned at the prospect of heavy damage.

FAO and GOAL distributed 12 motor-cycles to extension workers, enabling them to more effectively monitor pest control activities. Those monitors who own their own motorcycles were offered \$50 per month for the use of them until the new ones ordered by the project are delivered.

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken

Some difficulty was experienced with Dimilin, the new formulation of diflubenzuron, which is rather more viscous than that previously used. The supplier explained that the higher viscosity of the compound was necessary to maintain the stability of the product in storage, but it becomes less viscous when passed through the pump of a sprayer. However, the hand-held sprayers are gravity-fed, so it is necessary to ensure that the chemical is well agitated before use.

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PROJECT COMPLETED

Green Kabul Program United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) Life of Project: March 10, 2004 - November 30, 2005 Province: Kabul				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#32-004-UNOPS	March 10, 2004	M. Alem Alemi	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$1,038,595	\$38,302	\$1,038,595	\$16,358	\$0
Project description: UNOPS procured and distributed approximately 1 million trees throughout Kabul. Its key activities included: planting fruit and forestry trees in various public locations throughout Kabul, including schools, government buildings, parks, roadsides, and the Kabul Green Belt; organizing Kabul Green Week activities, including public events, children's activities, receptions, entertainment, and education; and coordinating an ongoing public information campaign to raise public awareness of environmental issues in Afghanistan.				

Project Accomplishments

UNOPS completed this project in November 2005, and successfully distributed 170,000 Trees in and around Kabul at the following locations.

Location of Tree Distribution	Number of Trees Distributed
Within Municipality	40,000
Kabul Green Belt	40,485
Residential/Public/Ministries in Kabul	89,515

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PROJECT COMPLETED

Repair of the Fil Koh Chute Gulson Cucurova Life of Project: April 7, 2004 - May 8, 2004 Province: Kandahar				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#33-0002-Gulsan	April 7, 2004	Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$45,000	\$0	\$45,000	\$0	\$0
Project Description: GULSAN-Cucurova assessed the damage and repaired the Fil Koh chute in Kandahar province to protect irrigation for 45,000 hectares.				

Project Accomplishments

The Fil Koh chute is part of an irrigation/hydroelectric project that was implemented by USAID long before the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. As a result of military action, the chute was damaged, threatening approximately 35,000 hectares with disruption of irrigation.

Former Governor Pashtoon of Kandahar province confirmed that the repair of the Fil Koh chute was an immediate priority for reconstruction. USAID repair efforts were coordinated with representatives of the Japanese government, who were in the process of developing their master plan for rehabilitating the Kandahar agriculture sector.



The damaged Fil Koh chute before repairs

The repair effort was more complicated than anticipated, due to undermining of the structure by attempts to run water through the chute while damaged. Gulson Cucurova's repair work proceeded quickly, starting in April 2004 and was completed in time for farmers to start planting for the 2004 crop cycle.

Irrigation Structure Repair	Province	District	Structure Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Fil Koh chute	Kandahar	Arghandab	1	1	100%
Total:			3	3	100%



The Fil Koh chute after GHULSAN-Cucurova repaired the structure.

Project Manager Comments

This project was the result of good planning and collaboration. Because the GULSAN-Cucurova group was already in the region working on other contracts, they were able to dedicate resources to this project at very low overhead cost.

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PROEJCT TERMINATED

Agricultural Produce Market Centers Relief International (RI) Life of Project : April 18, 2004 - September 30, 2004 Province: Nangarhar				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#34-0002-RI	April 15, 2004	James Huddleston	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$252,765	\$0	\$252,765	\$0	\$0
Project Description: RI built small Market Collection Centers (MCCs) at 19 locations in Nangarhar and designed a larger Agricultural Produce Market Center (APMC) that was planned to receive produce from the MCCs.				

Project Accomplishments

RI built small market collection centers (MCCs) at 19 locations in Nangarhar to provide shade for produce gathered from fields at harvest time. RI also designed typical Agricultural Produce Market Centers (APMCs) that were planned to receive produce from the MCCs and other production units.

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Reclaiming Salinized and Waterlogged Farmland

International Foundation for Hope (IF Hope)

Life of Project: May 23, 2004 - March 31, 2006

Province: Nangarhar

Job Order No.	Date of Award	Project Manager	USAID CTO	USAID CO
JO#35-IFHope	May 23, 2004	M. Ibrahim Sultani	Dan Miller	Margaret Kline
Ceiling Price	Quarter Expenditures	Cumulative Expenditures	Accruals to Date	Balance
\$1,991,846	\$446,081	\$1,267,700	\$222,466	\$724,146

Project Description: IF Hope is to clearing trees and vegetation and dredge silt deposits from 114 kilometers of blocked drainage ditches in two areas of highly productive irrigated agriculture in Nangarhar Province. Dredged spoil is to be used to rehabilitate roadways along the drains.

Accomplishments this Quarter

IF Hope's key accomplishments during this reporting period include:

- Completed excavating the designed portion in Kama;
- Finished Janat Kor, Chahar Dehi, D-06, K-20, K-22, K-27, K-28, K-29 in NVDA command;
- Increased work rate to over 11 km/month for fourth straight month;
- Continued post surveys as work progresses on NVDA side.

Drain Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Nangarhar and Kama Drainage system	Nangarhar	Bati Kot, Kama and Muhmand Dara	114	75.4	66%
Total:			114	75.4	100%

Looking Ahead

Over the next reporting period IF Hope will:

- Continue excavation operations on drains in Momandara, BaTi KoT;
- Complete the design on 2 km of new drains in Kama and 10-15 km additional drains on NVDA side;
- 33.8 km of drains remaining in NVDA command;
- Maintain post survey concurrent with work as it is progressing;
- Develop subcontract for building roads and bridges/culverts.

Project Manager Comments

IF Hope had to reselect and survey several drains that were included in original program as some drains were washed and destroyed during 2005 floods, now the surveys are completed and a program is agreed to close the drain portion of the contract. The remaining funds will be used for the proposed work on roads, culverts and a protection wall.



Ongoing excavation work of the Nangarhar and Kama drainage systems.

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PROJECT COMPLETED

Roads for Nangarhar Humanitarian Assistance Development Foundation (HADF), Relief International (RI) Life of Project: January 1, 2005 - November 31, 2005 Province: Nangarhar				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#36-0002-HADF, RI	January 1, 2005	Saroj Basnyet	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$737,396	\$202,807	\$737,396	\$0	\$0
Project Description: HADF and RI collectively rehabilitated 44.5 km of road in Kama district of Nangarhar province.				

Accomplishments this Quarter

- HADF finished rehabilitating 34.5 kilometer of roads in Kama district by November 2005.
- The traffic from Lal Pur, Ghosta and Kama districts to Nangarhar Kunar highway passing through the main feeder road has been diverted to the recently rehabilitated Land Bouch road – as the surface is much smoother.

Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Kama Ghosta	Nangarhar	Kama	10	10	100%
Kama Ghosta	Nangarhar	Kama	10	10	100%
Landa Booch	Nangarhar	Kama	10.45	10.45	100%
Zarshoe	Nangarhar	Kama	5.45	5.45	100%
Qalae Akhun Sangarsrai	Nangarhar	Kama	6.65	6.65	100%
Arbaban Kalaiakhun	Nangarhar	Kama	1.95	1.95	100%
Total:			44.5	44.5	100%

To highlight differences to road surface before and after rehabilitation, the following pictures were taken on the same segments of road before and after rehabilitation.



Before



After



Before



After

Project Manager Comments

During the rehabilitation of roads, local people have donated their valuable asset, their land, to increase the width of the roads from 4 to 6.5 meter. This illustrates the high demand for rehabilitation of rural roads; the sacrifice of productive lands for public works is only grudgingly granted or refused normally.

The results of the California Bearing Ratio tests (a standard test of compaction of the road surface) taken on these roads were greater than 90 percent, far greater than our required standard of 60 percent.

Since HADF has demonstrated that they have the ability to construct roads to our standards and specifications, and to negotiate adequate rights-of-way with local communities, they have been awarded the contract for the rehabilitation of an additional 13 km. of the Shergar road in Kama District. Negotiations are currently ongoing with HADF for the rehabilitation of 44 km. of roads in Momamdara, Battikot and Ranikhel districts of Nangarhar.

During the dedication ceremony of 24.1 kilometer of roads in Kama district held on 8 November 2005, Mr. C.A.P. Corstan from the PRT congratulated RAMP/HADAF for constructing gravel roads with high standards.

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December 31, 2005

Irrigation System Protection Reconstruction and Social Services for Afghanistan (RSSA) Life of Project: July 1, 2005 to December 5, 2005 Province: Nangarhar				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#36-0002-RSSA	July 1, 2005	Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$426,565	\$277,746	\$426,565	\$81,603	\$0
Project Description: RSSA is rehabilitating a 5 km section of sub canal 29 of Nangarhar's Main canal. Additionally, RSSA will rehabilitate 5 km of road that runs parallel to the canal, and construct/fill a 1,300 m river embankment along the road to prevent future erosion from floods.				

Accomplishments this Quarter

Over this past quarter, RSSA nearly completed all activities under this job order. RAMP originally anticipated that the canal and parallel road segment only required 4 km of rehabilitation. However, as work progressed, RSSA identified that it was necessary to rehabilitate an additional 1 km. By December 2005, RSSA had completed cleaning 5 km of Sub Canal 29, rehabilitation of 5 km of road along side the canal, and 92% of the embankment protecting the road from further erosion.

Canal Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km of Canals Rehabilitated		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Sub Canal 29 of Nangarhar Main Canal	Nangarhar	Shinwar	5	5	100%
Total:			235	235	100%
Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km of Roads Rehabilitated		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Road parallel to sub Canal 29 of Nangarhar Main Canal	Nangarhar	Shinwar	5	5	100%
Total:			34.9	34.9	100%
Embankment Construction	Province	District	M of Embankment Constructed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Parallel to sub Canal 29 of Nangarhar Main Canal	Nangarhar	Shinwar	1,300	1,200	92%
Total:			1,300	1,200	92%

Looking Ahead

RSSA will soon complete all activities under this Job Order. In January 2006, RSSA will continue with canal stone patching and installing the RCC pipes and gates.

Project Manager Comments

By completion of this project the rehabilitation program of RAMP for restoring irrigation supply to 6000 hectares of land that was damaged by flood and not getting water for the last 16 years will be completed. An additional 2000 hectares will be protected from floods.

RAMP will modify the period of performance section of RSSA's subcontract to reflect that work was not completed by December 2005 as originally planned. By February 2006, RSSA will complete all activities.

The following pictures are of RSSA laborers constructing the 1,300 m embankment along the road parallel to Sub Canal 29 of Nangarhar's main canal.



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Roads for Nangarhar Afghan Bureau for Reconstruction (ABR) Life of Project: September 8, 2005 - February 28, 2006 Province: Nangarhar				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#36-0002-ABR	September 8, 2005	Saroj Basnyet	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$462,188	\$65,809	\$78,380	\$12,572	\$383,808
Project Description: ABR is rehabilitating 24.15 km of road in Pachir Wa Agam district of Nangarhar province.				

Accomplishments this Quarter

ABR completed the design of the road and constructed eight culverts during this quarter. Only once ABR has completed all the associated culverts for this road corridor, will the partner begin to report on actual number of kilometers completed.

Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Agam Centre Giri Khel	Nangarhar	Pachir Wa Agam	12.5	Rehabilitation work is ongoing	N/A
District Centre Bamakhil	Nangarhar	Pachir Wa Agam	3.15	Rehabilitation work is ongoing	N/A
Zamarkhil Mourgi	Nangarhar	Pachir Wa Agam	2	Rehabilitation work is ongoing	N/A
District Centre Mir Afjali Zyarat	Nangarhar	Pachir Wa Agam	6.5	Rehabilitation work is ongoing	N/A
Total:			24.15	0	N/A

Project Manager Comments

ABR is providing necessary on-the-job training programs so laborers can effectively upgrade their skills. After the completion of culverts, ARB will begin the necessary on construction of the gravel sub-base.

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December 31, 2005

Roads for Nangarhar Design and Construction Group (DCG) Life of Project: September 8, 2005 - February 28, 2006 Province: Nangarhar				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#36-0002-DCG	September 8, 2005	Saroj Basnyet	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$496,239	\$60,213	\$106,376	\$46,163	\$389,863
Project Description: DCG is rehabilitating 26.8 km of road in Behsood and Shinwa districts of Nangarhar province.				

Accomplishments this Quarter

RAMP management has approved DCG's rehabilitation designs. DCG has constructed 31 box culverts and 17 pipe culverts. Only once DCG has completed all the associated culverts for this road corridor, will the partner begin to report on actual number of kilometers completed.

Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Nahr-e-Shahi, Khushgunbad	Nangarhar	Behsood	9.3	Rehabilitation work is ongoing	N/A
Gullaee	Nangarhar	Shinwar	9.1	Rehabilitation work is ongoing	N/A
Grhabawa-Anbar Khana	Nangarhar	Shinwar	8.4	Rehabilitation work is ongoing	N/A
Total:			26.8	0	N/A

Looking Ahead

DCG will need to continue to work on rehabilitation activities, and have been instructed by RAMP management to ensure they are crowning and compacting the sub-base properly.

Project Manager Comments

When the contract is awarded to a new contractor it takes our time and energy to upgrade their skills. DCG is providing on-the-job training to their staff to improve their technical skills so that they are able to construct roads to USAID's required standards.

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PROJECT COMPLETED

Rehabilitation of Roads, Drainage and Crossings Afghanaid (AAD) Life of Project : July 1, 2004 - January 30, 2005 Province: Nangarhar				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#38-0002-AAD	July 1, 2004	Saroj Basnyet	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$140,000	\$0	\$140,000	\$0	\$0
Project Description: The project has been completed. Five kilometers of road were rehabilitated along a segment from Saiphon to Lagarjoi in Nangarhar Province.				

Project Accomplishments

Afghan Aid completed the rehabilitation of 5 km of Saiphon Lagarjoi test road that includes 10 structures on February 15, 2005. This required continuous inspections from our staff almost on a daily basis.

Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Saiphon Lagarjoi (test road)	Nangarhar	Rodat	5	5	100%
Total:			5	5	100%

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Roads for Nangarhar Alyas Afghan Construction Company (AACC) Life of Project: September 8, 2005 - February 28, 2006 Province: Nangarhar				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#38-0002-AACC	September 8, 2005	Saroj Basnyet	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$374,021	\$45,070	\$79,326	\$34,256	\$294,695
Project Description: AACC is rehabilitating 21.3 km of road in Sherzad and Khogiani districts of Nangarhar province.				

Accomplishments this Quarter

RAMP management has approved of AACC's designs for the road rehabilitation activities in Nangarhar.

Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Shrzad and Khogiani	Nangarhar	Sherzad and Khogiani	21.3	Rehabilitation work is ongoing	N/A
Total:			21.3	0	N/A

Project Manager Comments

When the contract is awarded to a new contractor it takes our time and energy to upgrade their skills. This is the normal process that we have been following with the construction of our road programs. Due to low standard of construction work they have been advised to dismantle culverts that they had constructed. On-the-job training program is provided to their staff for the construction of culverts and road sub-base to enhance their technical skills.

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December 31, 2005

Roads for Nangarhar Humanitarian Assistance Development Foundation (HADF) Life of Project: October 27, 2005 - March 15, 2006 Province: Nangarhar				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#38-0002-HADF	October 27, 2005	Saroj Basnyet	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$240,545	\$37,065	\$64,030	\$26,965	\$176,515
Project Description: HADF is rehabilitating 13 km of the Shirgar road in Kama district of Nangarhar province.				

Accomplishments this Quarter

HADF has completed construction of 7 culverts and 23 pipe culverts. Only once HADF has completed all the associated culverts for this road corridor, will the partner begin to report on actual number of kilometers completed.

Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Shirgar road	Nangarhar	Kama	13	Rehabilitation work is ongoing	N/A
Total:			13	0	N/A

Project Manager Comments

RAMP is currently arranging maintenance agreement with the communities of the road corridor so that the road is maintained after rehabilitation.

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December 31, 2005

Roads for Balkh Agency for Rehabilitation and Energy Conservation In Afghanistan (AREA) Life of Project: November 22, 2005 - February 28, 2006 Province: Balkh				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#38-0002-AREA	November 22, 2005	Saroj Basnyet	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$90,931	\$9,093	\$28,718	\$19,624	\$62,213
Project Description: AREA is rehabilitating 5.7 km of road in Balkh district of the same province.				

Accomplishments this Quarter

AREA has completed the construction of 2 culverts, rehabilitation of 4 km. of sub-base and 1.7 km of gravel surface. This 5.7 km segment of road connects with AREA's previous RAMP-funded rehabilitation work of 26 km of the Colombo road (completed July 2005). AREA's activities under this job order will connect the Colombo road with the main North-South highway in Balkh province.

Only once AREA has completed all the associated culverts for this road corridor, will the partner begin to report on actual number of kilometers completed.

Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Colombo road	Balkh	Balkh	5.7	Rehabilitation work is ongoing	N/A
Total:			5.7	0	N/A

Looking Ahead

Based on the experience that they had on the rehabilitation of 97 km. of roads in Balkh it is expected that they will complete the construction of road in time.

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Roads for Hirat Afghan Rehabilitation and Agriculture Organization (ARAO) Life of Project: December 1, 2005 - January 15, 2006 Province: Hirat				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#38-0002-ARAO	December 1, 2005	Saroj Basnyet	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$28,529	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$28,529
Project Description: ARAO is conducting a survey and design of 43 km of roads around Gozarah and Injil canals including two bridges, each with an approximate length of 13 meters and 7 meters.				

Accomplishments this Quarter

ARAO has recently completed the survey of 30 km. of Khuja Alem – Hassan Abad and Pole Malan - Murghah village Murghak.

Project Manager Comments

RAMP management is looking forward to receiving ARAO's design.

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December 31, 2005

Rural Financial Services Afghanistan Renewal Fund (Fund) Life of Project: February 15, 2005 - July 1, 2006 Provinces: Nationwide				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#39-0003-Acap	February 15, 2005	Frances Toomey	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$4,000,000	\$0	\$2,200,000	\$0	\$1,800,000
Project Description: : The purpose of this Grant is to fund a contribution to the Afghanistan Renewal Fund, a venture capital fund to be managed by Acap Partners. The Fund will create a finance delivery mechanism to fulfill the unmet financing needs of small and medium enterprises (SMEs). The Fund's total capitalization will be close to \$20 million initially, and could grow to \$30 million. The Fund will generate market-based returns for investors by contributing to the regeneration of the private sector.				

Outreach to Provinces

The Fund is intended to reach agribusinesses throughout all the provinces of Afghanistan. Although, it would be more accurate to estimate that investments will be made in the major cities of Kabul, Hirat, Mazar-i-Sharif and Jalalabad.

Accomplishments this Quarter

- Raised entire capital goal from five sources including: \$5.5M from Asian Development Bank (ADB); \$5.7M from Capital for Development (CDC - a private equity investor focused on the emerging markets); \$5M from OPIC; \$3.8M from USAID/RAMP; \$200,000 from Acap Investments Ltd.; and \$100,000 from Glenavy Capital LLC.
- Completed all Shareholder and Management Agreements and contract documentation to close the Fund at the end of December 2005.

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken

The private investor, Ronald Lauder, withdrew from his committed investment after two months of the Fund waiting to close with this investment. This delay caused a serious setback for the Fund. Due to this withdrawal, Acap Partners had to come up with a strategy to make-up for the shortfall. As it turned out, both CDC and ADB contributed more funds to cover the shortfall of the private investor.

Due to the continued delays on moving the Fund forward and the need to have stable employment, the Investment Manager at Acap Partners resigned from the firm. Acap Partners is actively seeking a replacement for this position and two candidates were interviewed in December for the posting.

The Fund will have a challenge in re-establishing the relationships with the clients who have been identified and approached about an equity investment over the last several months. Acap Partners needs to have a solid presence promptly in Afghanistan to create the trust and bond so that these relationships become stronger.

Looking Ahead

Over the next reporting period, Acap will carry out the following activities:

- Launch the Fund.
- Identify and staff a Kabul office.
- Re-engage with the clients that had been identified by the previous Investment Manager for possible investment. Also, identify more clients who may need an equity partner.
- Invest in businesses that can be fast-tracked and ready for a partnership with the Fund before the end of RAMP.

Project Manager Comments

This is the first venture capital fund in Afghanistan providing financing for small- and medium-sized companies. There have been many lessons learned in closing this Fund especially in regards to the follow through of the investor's commitments. The Fund Managers did have contingency plans for the Fund to keep the momentum alive with alternative investors; investors demonstrating their extraordinary support of the Fund by adding to their committed funds to counter any shortfalls; and patient stakeholders in the Fund. It has been a long haul for USAID/RAMP along with the other investors. Acap Partners were given warnings from us that the Fund needed to be closed within certain timeframes due to the imminent closing of the RAMP program. It was questionable if we should have continued with our commitment –or- reinvested the funds with our ongoing rural finance activities. We have persisted with our pledge to the Fund and now we need to be pro-active in getting investments to targeted agribusinesses and assist Acap Partners in meeting their targets.

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December 31, 2005

Rural Financial Services Afghanistan International Bank (AIB) Life of Project: August 22, 2004 - July, 2006 Provinces: Nationwide				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#40-0003-AIB	August 22, 2004	Frances Toomey	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$2,000,000	\$0	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$0
Project Description: This revolving credit facility through AIB undertakes to extend medium and large sized loans in the range of \$50,000 to \$500,000 to entrepreneurs, enterprises and value added processors along the agricultural value chain. These enterprises may already be receiving technical assistance and support through other RAMP implementing partners, and this activity provides the best opportunity to quickly meet an identified credit need and create linkages with other sections of the RAMP program. AIB will be a self-sustaining partner that will have the capacity to continue to provide financial services to agribusinesses beyond the life of the RAMP project.				

AIB's credit facility is available nationwide and to-date loans have been approved for entrepreneurs located in Kabul, Kunduz, Faryab, Herat and Baghlan.

Accomplishments this Quarter

- Two loans were prepared during the quarter. One loan was for a repeat client, an input supplier with retail locations in Kabul and Herat, who repaid fully their first loan. The other loan was for a producer and distributor of improved seeds in Baghlan Province. Both loans are waiting for collateral documentation before disbursement.
- The Kandahar branch of AIB is opened for business during the quarter. The Herat branch is undergoing renovations to the building to prepare for the bank operations and is due to open for clients in early 2006. AIB began assessing other markets for the possibility of extending branches to more new areas.

Challenges Encountered

During the quarter, one borrower remains in default and another borrower is behind in their payments. Both borrowers have made assurances to AIB that they would repay when they received income from their clients. The borrowers have made some minimal payments to the bank but they are still in arrears. The challenge for RAMP is to ensure that the bank is using every measure to follow-up with the borrowers to get them up-to-date on their payments. If this is not possible, then the bank will have to start the process of seizing the collateral. The next step of seizing the collateral will be a real test for the bank as they are no collateral laws in place.

Looking Ahead

The main tasks for the first Quarter of 2006 are:

- Take immediate action on the borrowers in arrears to recover the lent funds.
- Disburse the loans to the approved clients from the previous quarter.
- Ensure that the loan capital is disbursed to qualified agribusiness clients so the funds are not idle with the bank.
- Finalize an impact assessment of the SME borrowers.

Project Manager Comments

New staff has been added to the team working on the RAMP revolving credit line. These new staff members have to be brought up-to-date on the status of the clients and understand the urgency to deal with problem borrowers. RAMP is taking a pro-active stance to push these new team members to disburse all the funds available to the bank. Also, RAMP will insist that the bank makes timely follow-up to the borrowers that are in default.

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PROJECT COMPLETED

Rural Financial Services UNDP - Business Mentoring Program Life of Project: November 4, 2004 to April 30, 2005 Provinces: Nationwide				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#41-0003-UNDP	November 4, 2004	Frances Toomey	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$116,014	\$0	\$116,014	\$0	\$0
Project Description: The purpose of this Grant is to provide support to implement a Business Mentoring Pilot Program. The program will primarily be a resource for targeted agribusinesses, identified by USAID/RAMP in cooperation with UNDP. The Business Mentoring Program will assist with a variety of activities, including designing an efficient program with a revenue stream; profiling the agribusiness' current depth of skills and needs for additional capacity; and identifying appropriate experts to deliver specific technical assistance. The program will deepen enterprise skills to improve the business' ability to comply with the conditions of the loan/lease.				

Project Accomplishments

- Served 28 clients with some business development services.
- 3 key personnel worked on the project during this pilot phase. The expatriate staff was twinned with national staff, which was trained in providing business development services.
- Office space for the Afghanistan Business Center (ABC) was set-up by the team.
- The fee structure for business development services was not fully completed during this pilot phase.

Lessons Learned

As warned by many prior to the project, UNDP proved to be so bureaucratic that a private sector initiative was not highly successful. Although, the project did meet many of their objectives, the pilot phase ended without a renewal. The UN policies and procedures were too much of a burden to untie and meet the needs of entrepreneurs seeking assistance to develop business plans to access the various financing options available to them.

A Request for Proposal for an implementing partner to manage a business advisory service operation was posted in March 2005. UNDP expressed interest in coordinating with this new entity and possibly providing some funding to it. The latter did not materialize although the former is expected to take place as the new implementing partner launches their operations.

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Rural Financial Services Flag International - Business Development Services (BDS) Life of Project: June 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006 Provinces: Nationwide				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#41-0003-FI	June 1, 2005	Frances Toomey	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$1,013,000	\$267,048	\$521,069	\$50,707	\$491,931
Project Description: The purpose of this subcontract is to provide Business Development Services (BDS) to Afghan agribusinesses with the goal of supporting their access to credit in support of RAMP's ongoing projects. The Subcontractor will target small and medium sized agribusinesses along the value chain and offer BDS services to Afghan agribusiness to access loans, leases, equity and post-finance assistance in order to grow their businesses.				

Flag International is available to work with clients nationwide and to-date has assisted entrepreneurs located in Kabul, Kunduz, Laghman, Faryab, Hirat, Parwan, Balkh and Baghlan.

Accomplishments this Quarter

Flag International's (FI) BDS program continued to make progress against their targets during this quarter including the following:

- Interviewed and screened for assistance 71 clients and provided technical assistance/training to 40 clients. The clients were a mix of sectors representing fresh and dried fruits, nuts, vegetables, livestock, grains, dairy, fish, cotton and fertilizer.
- Prepared business plans referred five clients to financial institutions for financing.
- Developed marketing and sales linkages for five clients including two women's organizations: Afghan Women Handicrafts and Women Agriculture Association.
- Training for national staff on business plan development and financial statement preparation from their international counterparts.
- One-on-one training provided to AFC Account Managers in business plan development.
- Developed relationships with other financial institutions including National Bank of Pakistan, Punjab National Bank, Pashtun Bank and Millie Bank for financing alternatives to agribusinesses.
- Coordinated with Land of Lakes on their project expansion to Hirat.

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken

Security and logistics were the biggest challenges encountered during the quarter for Flag International. The general security worsened over previous periods delaying several projects by weeks though ultimately they were completed. Limited city electricity watered down fuel for generators and power outages disrupted the daily operations.

Flag International is facing the high costs of time and communications to make field visits. The task ahead is to have more effective communications for visits to the business clients in the regions.

Finally, Flag's work is at times impeded by the companies' inefficient approach to information disclosure resulting in non-productive communications and unplanned delays in completing their technical assistance.

Looking Ahead

During the next quarter, Flag will continue their outreach in existing areas while expanding to territories that have not been previously served. Visits and training seminars will be completed in Mazar-i-Sharif and Badakhshan. This technical assistance will be focused on increasing the effectiveness of local businesses, developing human capacity, and building solid knowledge of business planning and accounting procedures and mechanisms that will enable them to apply for financing. The areas to be focused on are based on the expansion plans for the bank branches. We also look forward to working with new donor-funded organizations helping companies like Land O'Lakes expand their program to areas we have successful interventions.

Afghan nut associations continue to be a priority and Flag will work together with the beneficiaries/associations/companies of Roots of Peace and On The Frontier to support their needs and expansion plans. Flag intends to consolidate their legacy in the country through active training, continuous communication, and follow-on post-finance assistance while developing sound procedures for the national staff leading to sustainable development of local businesses.

Project Manager Comments

Flag International has proven to be a very good and reliable subcontractor. Their work is proving very vital to the financial institutions as Flag has the resources to prepare the entrepreneurs for the requirements for financing. Flag has also taken a great deal of initiative in coordinating, networking and building relationships with all the relevant private sector initiatives, Chambers of Commerce, various financial institutions, OPIC and donors. Finally, they have demonstrated results in businesses receiving much needed financing to develop and grow their operations.

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Rural Financial Services Afghanistan Finance Company (AFC) Life of Project: September 1, 2004 - July 1, 2006 Provinces: Nationwide				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#42-0003-AFC	September 1, 2004	Fran Toomey	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$3,500,000	\$0	\$3,490,000	\$0	\$10,000
Project Description: The AFC will be a leasing credit delivery mechanism to fulfill the unmet financing needs of small and medium enterprises (SMEs), specifically in the agricultural sector. The primary aim will be to finance SME activities along the value chains that are receiving support through RAMP funded projects. There is currently very limited lending available to SMEs, especially for agro-businesses. Making leasing available in Afghanistan will not only encourage processing to begin taking place, but will also allow business owners to obtain other types of equipment without having to front the full cost of the equipment. A finance and leasing company will be an integral part of the financial sector continuum in providing access to credit and making equipment available in country for agribusinesses.				

AFC's financing facility is available nationwide and to-date leases have been approved for entrepreneurs located in Kabul, Kunduz, Ghazni, Mazar and Jalalabad.

Accomplishments this Quarter

- Disbursed 7 additional leases, with cumulative disbursements totaling over \$610,000
- Received intensive training from Orix/Pakistan
- Attended AICC conference in Washington DC sponsored by AICC in October
- Prepared an exhibit for the ECO conference in Kabul
- Coordinated with the Senior Advisor to the Minister of Finance regarding leasing legislation
- Held internal workshops on strategic planning, risk management and bonus schemes
- Designed a new leasing product targeting village communities

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken

- Keeping focused on the strategy of the finance company and not get sidetracked by requests from donors and various private sector initiatives
- Establishing a proper organizational culture and work ethic for the AFC team especially the Account Managers
- Coordinating the paperwork between ARC-New York and Kabul and AFC for the annual audit of AFC completed by KPMG
- Releasing and recruiting of accountant who only stayed for a month and then the need to identify a new accountant
- Establishing hiring procedures to recruit appropriate staff
- Resigning of the Chief Financial Officer [to work for the Minister of Finance], who had been with AFC since the start-up
- Interim CEO on sick leave for the month of Oct

Looking Ahead

Over the next reporting period, AFC will carry out the following activities:

- Implementing some of the recommendations from the Orix training
- Finalizing and piloting a new lease product for the village community
- Finalizing Strategic Plan
- Hiring a CEO and CFO either individually or as a management contract
- Developing hiring priorities and follow through
- Identifying a firm to develop an MIS system
- On site training of Account Managers at Orix/Pakistan
- Developing proposals for additional financing

Project Manager Comments

AFC is well on their way to establishing a sound operation and a diversified portfolio. They have demonstrated very good results over the quarter. The main achievement for the quarter was building on the relationship with Orix, a well-established Pakistani leasing company. This relationship with Orix could grow into a more formal partnership that could benefit AFC and enhance their operations. As a finance company, AFC, continues to need some further capacity to grow their portfolio.

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Rehabilitation of Drains and Canals in Hilmand and Baghlan Development Alternatives, Inc. Life of Project: November 1, 2004 – June 15, 2006 Provinces: Hilmand, Baghlan				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#43-0002-DAI	November 1, 2004	John Priest	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
*\$1,193,492	\$403,262	\$1,193,492	\$0	\$0
Project Description: DAI has rehabilitated 64.14 km of drains in Hilmand (three sections: Darweshan, Shamalan, Upper Boghra), and is clearing 52.34 km of canals in Baghlan (two sections: Gurgurak, Ab Qul).				

Rehabilitating Afghanistan's irrigation and drainage systems is the first and most basic step in restoring food security to its people. With 85 - 90% of the country's gross domestic product derived from agriculture and 85% of crop value derived from irrigated lands this is indisputable.

Repairing and rehabilitating irrigation drainage systems has tight seasonal limitations. Most cleaning and structural work on irrigation and systems must be completed by early spring when *mirabs* open the canal gates to provide water for irrigating the crops.



DAI laborers work on widening section of Gurgurak canal in Baghlan.

Accomplishments this Quarter

DAI has finished all of its work in Hilmand, but continues to work on canal rehabilitation in Baghlan. On November 17 and 19 respectively, DAI held ground breaking ceremonies at the Gurgurak and Ab Qul canal project sites. Community elders and local government officials were in attendance at the ceremonies. By December 2005, DAI had cleared and widened a combined 11.3 km from both canals.

Drain Rehabilitation	Province	Region	Km of Drains Rehabilitated		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Darweshan	Hilmand	Darweshan	10.96	10.96	100%
Shamalan	Hilmand	Shamalan	41.91	41.91	100%
Upper Boghra	Hilmand	Upper Boghra	11.27	11.27	100%
Total:			64.14	64.14	100%
Canal Rehabilitation	Province	Region	Km of Canals Rehabilitated		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Gurgurak Canal	Baghlan	Gurgurak	16.8	5.5	33%
Ab Qul Canal	Baghlan	Ab Qul	35.54	5.8	16%
Total:			52.34	11.3	22%

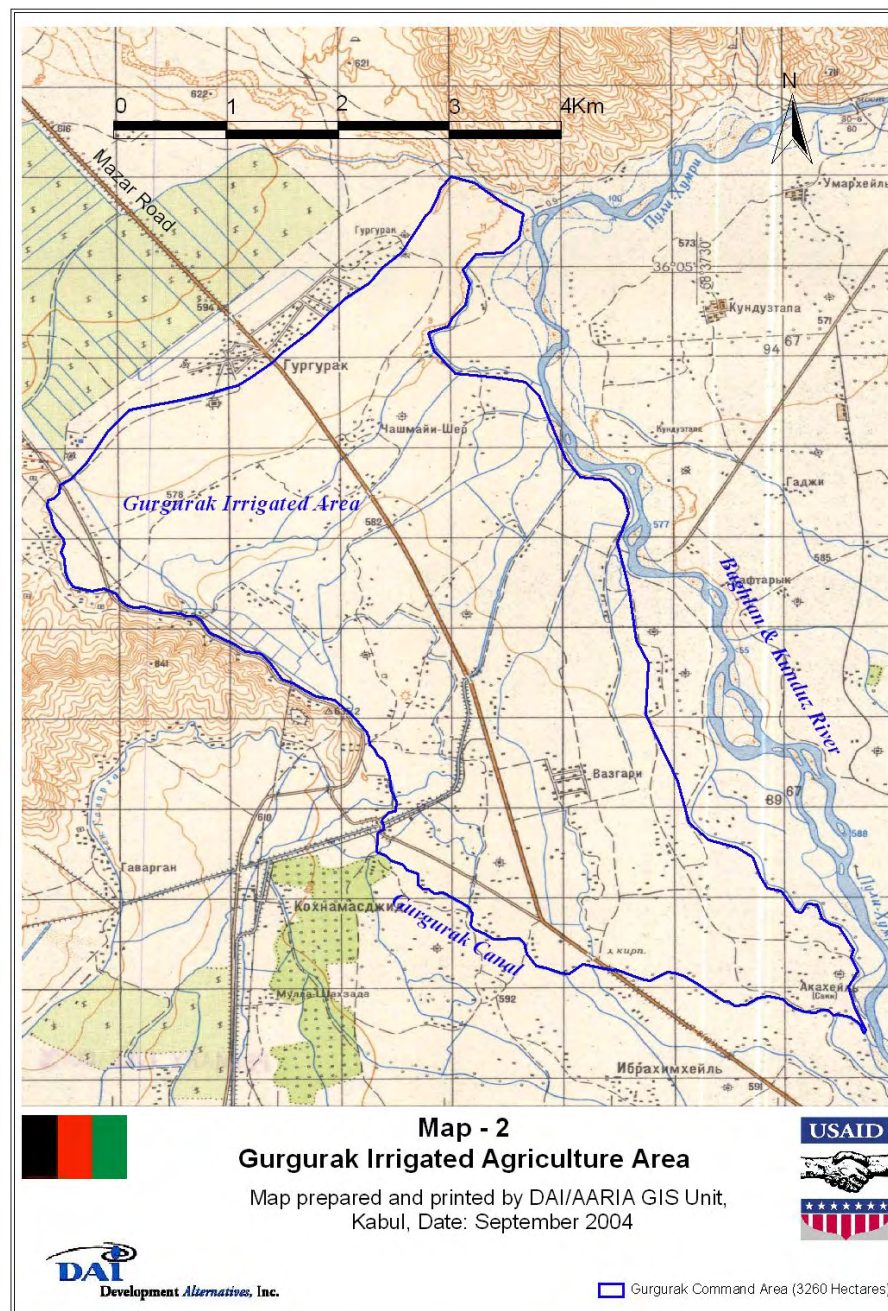
Project Manager Comments

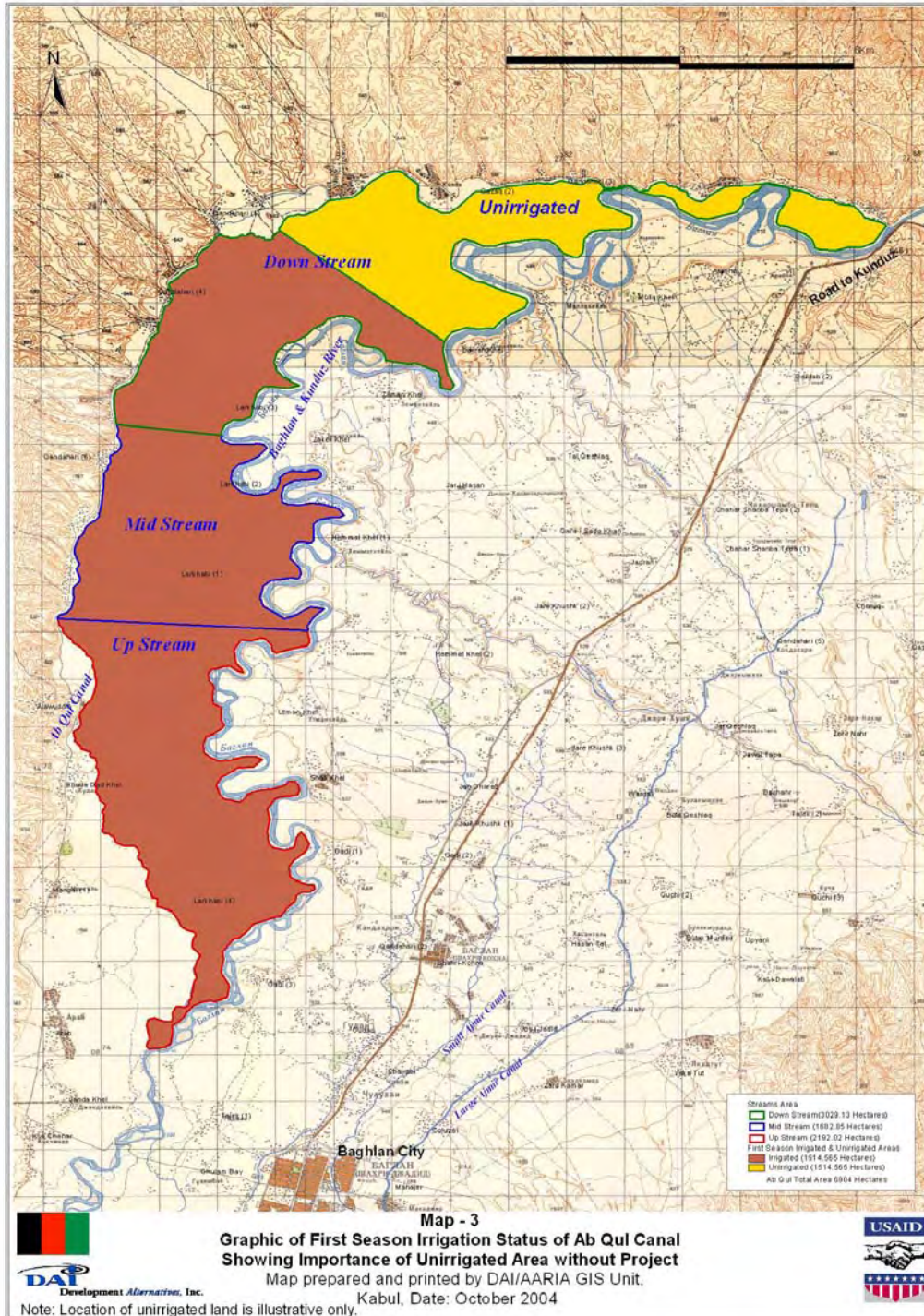
DAI Engineers and Foremen are constantly supervise and monitor the progress of work. For each canal there is one field engineer responsible to control the quality and quantity of work, and DAI's site engineer, visits both projects every other day.

Mirabs and community elders have visited the ongoing work several times and they were really happy from the work.

*RAMP management is working with DAI to allocate the project more funding so it can successfully carry out its planned activities.

The following maps created by DAI illustrate the areas of Baghlan that will be affected by their work on these canal systems.





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Hilmand Institution Building and Advisory in Support of Alt. Livelihoods Development Alternatives, Inc. Life of Project: November 1, 2004 - October 31, 2005 Provinces: Hilmand				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#44-0002-DAI	November 1, 2004	John Priest	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$1,021,612	\$165,705	\$244,115	\$277,183	\$500,314
Project Description: This project was designed to realize the chartering at the national level of water user associations (WUAs). The charters are to empower water users with the authority and responsibility to operate, manage, maintain, and rehabilitate canal systems from the farm gate to river intakes while collecting revenues adequate to be self financing. By-laws are to be developed in consultation with the local water user groups so that each group can adapt their chartered operations to harmonize with past practices. DAI has chosen the Marja and Nadi Ali areas of Middle Hilmand as the initial areas for introduction of the several models to be developed. It is expected that the models will be transferred to other areas of the country where traditional, rather than government owned systems, are functioning.				

Accomplishments this Quarter

Team members worked with the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources to incorporate into the new water law specific references to the formation of chartered water user associations. A charter template and by laws were developed for use by WUAs being formed to develop a charter that is specific to their irrigation system and to the social norms of the community.

During October a delegation of RAMP and DAI staffs traveled to Hirat and interviewed the governor, local officials and water users to formulate a program for the establishment of a WUA in the Injil canal command. The program of work was undertaken and by the end of the quarter the water users were organizing for elections.

The Governor expressed his enthusiasm for the RAMP approach to the governance of water users. He noted that he now is required to settle even armed conflict among water users, but with the dispute resolution process being implemented by RAMP he would expect that conflicts will be settled without resort to violence.

The contract period was extended to January 31, 2006 because there still was budget available in the original ceiling and there is excellent opportunity to organize water users in Hirat within a few months.

Looking Ahead

RAMP is expecting that elections will be held among the water users and that they will be set on the path of seeking chartering.

Project Manager Comments

Budget constraints may curtail the program in Hirat toward the end of the coming quarter. RAMP management will work to extend the period of performance of this subcontract.

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PROJECT DISCONTINUED

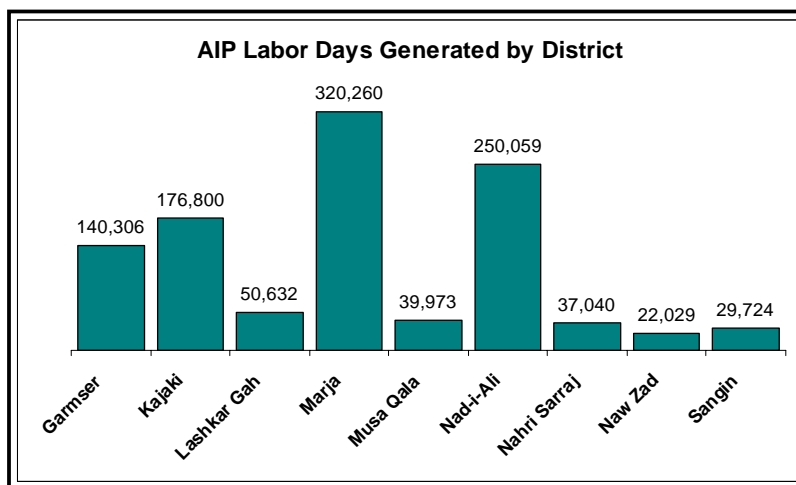
Alternative Income Project (AIP) Chemonics International Inc. Life of Project: November 19, 2004 – July 20, 2005 Provinces: Hilmand				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#46-0002-Chemonics International	October 24, 2004	Carol Yee	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$8,245,450	\$0	\$8,245,450	\$0	\$0
Project Description: AIP, implemented by Chemonics International in Hilmand province, is an integral part of USAID/Kabul's Alternative Livelihoods Strategy for Afghanistan. In close consultation with all levels of the Afghan government, communities and donor agencies, and in support of the larger government of Afghanistan counter-narcotic initiative, AIP efficiently implements community-driven quick impact activities that provide: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Immediate cash infusions to communities through labor-intensive activities 2. Economic growth in the community, as a foundation for future economically-viable alternatives to poppy production 3. A strong message that the Government of Afghanistan and donors will assist communities through emergency programs that will lead to sustainable development. 				

Project Accomplishments

During the life of the project, AIP rapidly implemented **22 cash-for-work infrastructure projects which generated 1,066,823 labor days and infused \$4.1 million in wages into local economies.** These individual labor-intensive projects employed community members of 10 districts in Hilmand to clean minor drains/irrigation canals, excavate debris from karezes, rehabilitate farm to market roads, and weave metal frames for gabion baskets.



To promote economic security for those unable to participate in cash-for-work activities, AIP issued grants to INTERSOS, Mercy Corps International and VARA to lead community development activities and facilitate vocational training courses. These programs focused on particularly vulnerable segments of the population – women-led households and internally displaced people. Collectively the grantees enrolled 536 participants in vocational training programs and reached a total of 3,946 beneficiaries through literacy courses, social protection campaigns, and instructional agriculture radio programs.



Although AIP's tremendous impact was felt by its intended beneficiaries, the work did not go unnoticed by hostile forces in the region. Seven months into the project, the security environment in southern Afghanistan tragically deteriorated. From May 17 to May 19, 2005, AIP suffered three attacks resulting in the death of four staff members and seven associated individuals. AIP immediately suspended all cash-for-work activities, and instructed its grantees to only continue those community development activities which could be safely implemented. Chemonics and USAID/Afghanistan proceeded to engage in discussions to determine the most effective means for AIP to safely resume its activities.

On July 30, 2005, Chemonics and USAID/Afghanistan mutually agreed that the best way to maintain AIP's programmatic momentum was to contractually discontinue the project and fold its existing activities into other USAID-funded programs managed by Chemonics. Both parties decided that AIP's cash-for-work activities and the majority of its staff and assets would be incorporated into Chemonics' Alternative Livelihoods Project in southern Afghanistan (ALP/S); AIP's community development grants would be managed by Chemonics' Rebuilding Agricultural Markets Program (RAMP/Chemonics).



Governor Sher Mohammad pays an AIP laborer at Nad-i-Ali

Throughout its duration, AIP attracted significant attention from a range of Afghan and American officials and counter-narcotic policy designers including US Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad, John Walters - Director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, Habibullah Qaderi, - Afghan Counter Narcotics Minister, Mark Kirk - US Congressman of Illinois, Ross Wherry - USAID Senior Reconstruction Advisor, and Patrick Fine - USAID/Afghanistan Mission Director. AIP was able to clearly demonstrate to these delegations the effectiveness of its cash-for-work and vocational training components, and how they can be easily replicated to assist in larger counter-narcotic initiatives.

AIP's final report illustrates that the project's seven months of operation were extremely successful in quickly implementing community-driven activities that responded to the immediate needs of its targeted beneficiaries. Although the project ended prematurely, AIP made a visible and lasting impact in its host communities and laid the foundation for further alternative livelihood activities in the region.

On February 15, 2005, USAID awarded to Chemonics a \$119.9 million contract to manage ALP activities in the southern region (ALP/S). ALP/S is working to achieve two strategic objectives (1) Help accelerate licit economic growth and business activities in selected provinces in which poppy cultivation is thriving, and (2) Help provide an immediate source of income to poor households whose livelihoods depend, directly or indirectly, on the temporary opium economy.

AIP's cash-for-work activities feed directly into ALP/S' second objective of providing an immediate source of income to its target beneficiaries. AIP is transferring over 12 cash-for-work projects that can resume in a matter of a few days under ALP/S' management once the security situation improves. ALP/S will adopt AIP's cash-for-work management structure to build on the momentum and community recognition that AIP had already achieved.

The majority of AIP's local staff members have transferred over to ALP/S office in Lashkar Gah to manage the cash-for-work component of the larger program. At the project's closure, AIP had 102 national staff on its payroll. (These figures do not include the 14,000 cash-for-work laborers who were not full time staff members, as they were hired on a project specific basis). AIP's staff members have acquired significant institutional knowledge and will be able to easily resume administering and monitoring cash-for-work activities with little advanced preparation. Engineers from AIP have already begun working with ALP/S staff to determine which activities would be the most appropriate to resume first.

Additionally, AIP transferred the majority of its physical assets to ALP/S, so the program will not need to spend additional time procuring office/technical equipment before resuming cash-for-work activities.

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Q4 FY05

PROJECT COMPLETED

Nangarhar Emergency Seed Wheat and Fertilizer Distribution Program
Social and Technical Association for Afghanistan Rehabilitation
Life of Project: December 4, 2004 – June 30, 2005
Provinces: Nangarhar

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#48-0004- IFHOPE, RSSA, STAAR, GAA, RDRO, ICARDA, Relief International	December 4, 2004	Naqib Ahmad	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$554,142	\$0	\$554,142	\$0	\$0
Project Description: This action arose mainly as a result of the US Mission to Afghanistan, responding to a request by the Governor of Nangarhar Province for help to encourage farmers to start cultivating licit crops in lieu of illicit crops (opium poppy). In order to respond, therefore, the US Mission is launching an emergency distribution program of seed wheat and fertilizer in 23 districts of Nangarhar Province.				

In response to a request from the Governor of Nangarhar and the Minister of Rural Rehabilitation and Development, the U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan, Dr. Zalmay Khalilzad mobilized the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to organize the distribution of 490 MT of wheat seed and 1,478MT of fertilizer to Afghan farmers in all 23 districts of Nangarhar.

The wheat and fertilizer distribution campaign is just one part of a broader, anti-poppy initiative to ensure alternative livelihoods for Afghan farming families. The effort is coordinated by the USAID funded Rebuilding Agricultural Markets Program, as implemented by Chemonics International. RAMP is the largest agricultural development initiative in Afghanistan.

Project Accomplishments

The average production for wheat as reported by the Implementing Partners ranged from 2.4 to 3.8 metric tons per hectare.



Former US Ambassador Dr. Zalmay Khalilzad speaking to project beneficiaries in Jalabad, Nangarhar province.

Name of IP	# of Farmers received the seed	Land cultivated (hectares)	Total wheat seed distributed (MT)	Total fertilizer distributed (MT)		Average Production Kg/Jerib* (mt/hectare)	Total Production (MT)
				DAP	Urea		
Relief International	10792	2158	269.8	269.8	539.6	720 (3.6)	7772
ICARDA	1718	344	43	43	86	640 (3.2)	1100
RDRO	1700	340	42.5	42.5	85	525 (2.6)	892
GAA	1560	312	39	39	78	617 (3.8)	963
STAAR	1284	258	32.2	32.2	64.4	499 (2.5)	640
RSSA	840	160	21	21	41	490 (2.4)	392
IFHOPE	1680	336	42	42	84	577 (2.9)	970
Total	19,574	3,908	489.5	489.5	978		12,729

* One jerib is 0.2 hectare

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken

- During data collection and surveying some farmers were not present in villages, they were gone for work
- In some villages, the farmers redistributed the specified amount of wheat (25kg) due to their traditional regulations
- Some of the villages are so far away and either have no road or only a poor road to carry their necessary items by donkey

Project Manager Comments

- The farmers were, generally, pleased and asked for more programs such as this one. Most of the farmers are very poor and are unable to find and purchase improved seed and fertilizer.
- The distribution program proved very useful for all farmers especially for those farmers whose poppy was eradicated by the Government.
- If such a program is repeated, it should be on time. This year most of the fields were already sown with wheat and other crops while the seed and fertilizer was being distributed.
- This program played a significant role in reducing and eradicating poppy

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Q3FY05

PROJECT COMPLETED

Qasim Ali to Sayed Ahmed Road
Kunduz Reconstruction Agency (KRA)
Life of Project: October 10, 2003 – May 31, 2005
Provinces: Kunduz

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#49-0002-KRA	October 10, 2003	Saroj Basnyet	Dan Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$193,998	\$61,973	\$143,132	\$20,890	\$50,866
Project Description: KRA has upgraded and widened 7.2 kilometers of the Qasim Ali to Sayed Ahmed tertiary road in Aliabad District of Kunduz Province.				

Project Accomplishments

KRA has completed the rehabilitation of 7.2 km. of compacted-gravel surface based on community mobilization and with the support of Government.

Communities have donated their land throughout the length of the road corridor and this has permitted an increase of width of the road surface from 2.5 or 3 meters originally to 7 meters in width

Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Qasim Ali to Ahmed	Kunduz	Aliabad	7.2	7.2	%100
Total:			7.2	7.2	%100

In addition to land, communities from Qasamali village have donated their houses and have demolished them to enlarge the width of the road. The photo shows the demolition of buildings at Qasamali Village No. 2 located at 3.6 km. and the difference made to the structure of the road after rehabilitation.

The following photos were taken at kilometer 3.5 of the road before and during rehabilitation, i.e., during February 2005 and October 2005. They highlight improvements made to the road surface and width.



During rehabilitation



After rehabilitation

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Locust and Sunn pest Control Control Program, Northern Afghanistan**Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)****Period of Performance: March 11, 2005 – Feb 26, 2006****Provinces: Baghlan, Balkh, Faryab, Jawzjan, Kunduz, Samangan, Sar-i-Pul, Takhar**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#50-0004-FAO	March 1, 2005	Abdul Samad Nazari	Dan Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$1,470,000	\$0	\$1,227,089	\$0	\$242,911

Project Description: FAO locust and Sunn pest emergency control program**Expected Results (by end of project):** Approximately 200,000 families and 1.3 million families benefiting.**Capacity Building****Enhanced Livelihood** – To safeguard the food security and stability of the target provinces by ensuring that locusts and Sunn pest do not cause disastrous losses of wheat and other crops in these provinces during 2005.**Accomplishments this Quarter**

Control operations against locust had been completed in June. Data from the oviposition survey, which had also been completed in June, were entered into the database and analysed. In 2004, Baghlan and Balkh were the two most heavily infested (with egg beds) provinces of the five provinces surveyed. In the 2005 survey, Balkh was the only province that had a relatively high number of hectares with egg beds. Twenty of 27 districts surveyed had a decrease of 90% or more in the number of hectares with egg beds detected, and only 3 districts had a higher number of hectares (see below).

Areas of egg-bed detected in surveys, 2004 and 2005

Province	District	2004	2005	% Decrease
Baghlan	Andarab	170,071*	0	100
Baghlan	Baghlan	1,574	62	96
Baghlan	Baghlani Jadid	42,705	2,713	94
Baghlan	Burka	276	0	100
Baghlan	Dahana-I- Ghor	2,068	0	100
Baghlan	Dushi	2	0	100
Baghlan	Nahrin	52	0	100
Baghlan	Puli Khumri	29	0	100
Balkh	Chahar Kint	916	0	100
Balkh	Chimtal	649	0	100
Balkh	Dihdadi	4,239	3,795	90
Balkh	Khulm	8,649	22,902	(265)
Balkh	Marmul	12,458	57	100
Balkh	Nahri Shahi	10,135	2,847	72
Kunduz	Ali Abad	3,483	0	100
Kunduz	Archi	0	1,163	n/a
Kunduz	Chahar Dara	7,044	723	90
Kunduz	Imam Sahib	1,594	967	39
Kunduz	Khan Abad	5,458	404	93
Kunduz	Kunduz	544	201	63
Kunduz	Qalay-I- Zal	1,622	0	100
Samangan	Aybak	10,652	56	99
Samangan	Dara-I- Suf	0	12	n/a

Province	District	2004	2005	% Decrease
Samangan	Hazrati Sultan	12,713	1,843	86
Takhar	Eshkamish	17	0	100
Takhar	Rostaaq	196	0	100
Takhar	Taloqan	55	0	100
Total		129,134	39,750	

* the data from Baghlan-Andarab are suspect and are excluded from the total area calculation.

- The table does not include the relatively small area in the desert (in the Kunduz, Baghlan, and Samangan provinces) identified (after most of the locust control activities were completed in 2005) as being heavily infested. The added hectares in this desert area may bring the total area to 50,000 ha, a 61% drop from the 2004 survey results. The results indicate that the locust population will be significantly lower in most districts next year and will pose a significantly less control problem than in 2005.
- Equipment used in the campaign was recovered from the field, cleaned, repaired and stored.

Emergency Sunn pest Control

- Control activities against Sunn pest, which had begun in late-May, continued into August at the higher elevations as the wheat ripened later. On completion of operations, the equipment was recovered and returned to the Mazar store. Some spray equipment has still not been recovered from remote districts. Information on the coverage of Sunn pest and other field information from the campaign were entered onto a spreadsheet for analysis.

Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD) Laboratory and Staff Training

- The PPQD lab, with three sections (disease, entomology, and nematode), was installed. A training course for staff of PPQD Kabul in laboratory procedures was carried out in the new PPQD laboratory by the FAO project staff in July and August. Further in-service training, including sample collection trips into the field, followed the laboratory training. The PPQD laboratory technicians have begun the work of collecting the dominant economic pests, such as Sunn pest, Colorado potato beetle, and melon fly, and creating slides of plant diseases. Also farmers are bringing plants with various diseases to be diagnosed.

Looking Forward

- A population survey of Sunn pest overwintering sites will be carried out in November-December in the provinces stretching from Hirat to Balkh.
- Plant protection staff from 34 provinces will be brought to Kabul in early November for a training course and workshop on integrated pest management. At that time, each of the PPQD staff members in the Sunn pest control provinces will be interviewed to obtain information for planning the upcoming overwintering survey.
- The Sunn pest over-wintering survey data will be analyzed and disseminated.

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken

- The challenges encountered in this reporting period are those that emerge retrospectively in examining the data from the Sunn pest campaign period. There is a clear need to strengthen the extension effort for Sunn pest control. Moreover, it was apparent that the distribution of free pesticide for Sunn pest blunted the effectiveness of the extension message to rely primarily on mechanical control using sweep nets.

Project Manager Comments

- The motorcycles needed for the survey need to be registered as soon as possible
- The Sunn pest over-wintering survey teams should be well trained and equipped with all the necessary equipment and all transport arrangements completed prior to moving to the field for conducting the survey.

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Ministry of Agriculture Institutional Capacity Building Chemonics International Life of Project: May 12, 2005 - May 12, 2006 Provinces: Nationwide				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#51-0004-Chemonics	May 12, 2005	Louis Faoro	Dan Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$878,994	\$141,202	\$366,471	\$53,712	\$512,523
Project Description: Chemonics will provide a cadre of senior officials to enhance the capabilities of the MAAHF. These officials will coordinate and develop a strategic plan for the Ministry.				

Accomplishments this Quarter

The senior advisors provided by this Institutional Capacity Building project are primarily working with the Minister of MAAHF and his senior ministry staff to develop a ministry capable of effectively directing the growth and expansion of the agriculture sector in Afghanistan. To this end, much of the focus of the advisors has been to work closely with the Minister and his senior staff to develop effective long-term planning, to create structures and systems to carry out the plans, and to keep others informed, both within and outside the government, of the MAAHF plans and progress. In addition, the advisors have been invaluable in more applied activities such as assistance in implementing on-going projects as well as identifying and developing new project ideas and proposals where needed.

One of the major accomplishments of the 4th quarter was completing the MAAHF Master Plan. A second key accomplishment was to propose to the Administrative Reform and Civil Service Commission a strategic solution to the problem of funding super grade senior MAAHF staff. Without such staff the minister can not carry out his plans to modernize the ministry and bring the private sector more into the process of agricultural development. A third important accomplishment was a proposal developed by the RAMP team in direct consultation with the minister to design and implement a major new MAAHF initiative, that of re-establishing the international hand-woven carpet market. This initiative will be employment oriented and will contain a substantial component dealing with animal production and health. A fourth noteworthy accomplishment was the establishment of an MAAHF-wide initiative of skills training primarily in English and computer competence. This is an important basic capacity-building step and is highly desired by ministry staff in general. A final critical accomplishment was the enhanced integration of RAMP program activities and ministry staff. This is another capacity-building thrust that places significant responsibility for RAMP implementation on ministry technical and management staff. This initiative will be expanded over the next two quarters of the RAMP program.

The team of advisors from RAMP and other donors, in cooperation with senior ministry staff, completed the MAAHF Master Plan before the deadline and submitted it to the ANDS (Afghan National Development Strategy) team, where it was well received. RAMP advisors participated directly with the Master Plan core team as well as with specific section sub-committees to develop the plan, budget and detailed investment plan. Following review of the Master Plan, the President's office additionally requested that the MAAHF prepare a strategic chapter on Value Added and on Irrigation. Dr. Usman worked with two teams that were set up to prepare these documents, which have to date completed the section on Value Added. The section on Irrigation is expected to be completed by mid February.

The major task for the ministry will now be to implement the Master Plan. During the development of the Master Plan, RAMP advisors have been working simultaneously, depending on their expertise, on many areas addressed by the Master Plan.

Dr. Usman (Policy and Planning Advisor) completed a project document for strengthening policy, monitoring and evaluation, and planning, which will be translated and distributed to all departments within the ministry to be used as a model for them to prepare their individual department action plans.

He is also working with PEAP (Policy, Economic Analysis, and Planning) staff and with Department Heads to develop and implement plans for restructuring as well as developing ordinary and development budgets. In response to an identified need of building staff capacity, Dr. Usman and Dr. Mellor proposed and facilitated start-up, under the management of the Head of Planning, intensive training for selected staff in Computer Skills and in English Language. The first 3-month training session for 10 PEAP staff was completed in early January, and the second is under way for an additional 10 staff. Dr. Usman, jointly with senior department staff, developed evaluation guidelines to assist directors in selecting qualified staff.

Mr. Yaqub Roshan (Alternative Livelihoods Advisor) has worked closely with several departments to build capacity, establish systems, and enhance communication and cooperation between departments that will result in more effective and efficient operation. Within the AL unit, he has worked with AL staff to improve the organizational structure, prepare clearer and more usable TORs, identify and prepare more relevant project proposals, more effective interaction with potential donors, and identifying and improving logistical needs. Within the Administration department he has worked closely with the Head of Administration to identify problems and streamline procedures and forms, as well as drafting administration and financial management guidelines. Mr. Roshan is working with the Head of Plant Protection and Quarantine Department to build the department's capacity to respond in a more timely manner to pest damage to crops. This includes more effective monitoring, advanced planning, and training for PPQD provincial officials. This will be an ongoing activity and includes improving communication and coordination with potential donors to compensate for very limited PPQD resources. Mr. Roshan also worked closely with the recently completed AISP program where needed to improve communication and cooperation. The results of his activities were improved flow of information to the Minister and Provincial Governors, improved cooperation, and the resolution of misunderstandings when they arose.

Mr. Rahman Habib (Infrastructure, Public Relations, and Foreign Relations Advisor) has been a key asset to the Minister in many diverse areas. He has worked closely with the Minister to improve the overall organization and management of the Minister's office as well as improving teamwork of office staff. This has resulted in a more efficiently run office that better meets the needs of the Minister. He has assisted the Minister in developing improved communication with donors and foreign dignitaries by planning meetings, briefing the Minister, and preparing and organizing conferences, press releases and statements. In this way the Minister is becoming more effective in directing the course of the MAAHF. Mr. Habib, as an architect by training, has completed a feasibility report and master plan for the MAAHF compound to make it more effectively meet the needs of the ministry departments and staff. He designed a modern open office system for the planning department, that will increase the effectiveness of the department. Construction work is expected to start within a month. He re-designed a new training center with four classrooms and an auditorium that will provide facilities to build the capacity of MAAHF staff. In addition he supervised renovation of a building to provide dining facilities for staff, and prepared tender documents for renovation of several MAAHF office buildings. The results of Mr. Habib's work provide the base for more effective ministry activities in improving the agriculture sector.

Three additional short-term consultants provided assistance to the MAAHF through RAMP during the 4th quarter. These specialists addressed current and important issues facing the MAAHF at this time.

Dr. Don Bedunah, on a short-term assignment, completed a detailed assessment of Afghanistan's Rangelands and Management Issues, including a review of policies, assessment of rangeland in Afghanistan, assessment of current rangeland management practices and issues and possible options for resolution of these issues, and a discussion on rangeland policy and strategies for sustainable management.

Ms. Frauke de Weijer developed and conducted a Kuchi development workshop during November as part of a comprehensive Kuchi assessment. The purpose of the assessment is to provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Frontiers and Tribal Affairs and to provide information and knowledge required to create a clearly defined Kuchi Assessment Strategy. She also conducted a Ghazni Wool Market Assessment, describing the products available, improving the quality, and an analysis of the marketing systems currently in place.

Dr. Liz Alden Wily conducted an assessment on Land Tenure and Afghanistan's Land Reform process, providing an analysis of the current situation, and recommendations for developing a sound policy. She also participated in the Kuchi development workshop.

Looking Forward

With the Master Plan completed successfully, the next steps will be to implement the plan. The advisors have begun work in many areas including training and capacity building of senior staff, developing individual workplans for departments, advising and guiding working groups, assessing current infrastructure and anticipated needs, and developing and strengthening relationships within the government and the donor community. The RAMP advisors will continue in these and other areas during the coming quarter.

Quarterly Report

Q4 FY05

December 31, 2005

Agricultural Input Supply Program
International Fertilizer Development Company (IFDC)
Life of Project: August 24, 2005 - June 2006
Provinces: Nationwide

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#52-0004-RAMP	August 24, 2005	Michael Courtney	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$800,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$800,000
Project Description: IFDC will procure and coordinated the distribution of 500,000 technical packages consisting of up to 25 kg of seeds for improved varieties of wheat, potato, and onion, and 75 kg of fertilizer (DAP and Urea) for the Fall 2005 planting season. Farmer beneficiaries also received counter-narcotic and agricultural extension material with the technical packages. Farmers who received the technical packages are expected to pay back a subsidized value of the inputs after the spring harvest.				

The Agricultural Input Supply Program (AISP) is a nation wide initiative in which the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food will work with MRRD, MCN, DFID, USAID, RAMP/Chemonics, IFDC, Provincial and District Implementing Partners to provide fertilizers and seeds to approximately 530,000 beneficiaries throughout Afghanistan.

The objective of AISP is to mitigate the economic hardship resulting from a reduction of poppy cultivation, either voluntary or by force, by providing farmers and rural producers with the means for shifting into licit agricultural activities and to encourage the farmers not to revert to poppy planting during 2005 – 2006 growing season.



Farmers in Badakshan province plant wheat seed distributed through the Agricultural Input Supply Program (AISP).

Accomplishments this Quarter

By December 2005, AISP had distributed improved seed and fertilizer varieties in each of Afghanistan's 34 provinces, reaching 386 of the nation's 397 districts in time for the fall planting season. Thus, the program has successfully delivered seed and fertilizer with counter-narcotics messages to 97 percent of its target beneficiaries.

Looking Forward

During June 2006, AISP coordinators will follow-up with the provincial department of agriculture to see how effective the program is in reclaiming the subsidized value of the technical packages from participating farms.



For the Spring 2006 planting season, USAID will work with the Government of Afghanistan to implement a refined distribution program - building on the previous program's success. Rather than distributing seed and fertilizer on a national scale, the spring program will focus on those provinces in Afghanistan which have some of the highest incidence of opium poppy cultivation. Market assessments are currently underway, identifying specific high-value horticulture crops that are most suitable to promote through this program. Additional agricultural extension services will be incorporated into the spring program, to ensure efficient production and marketing of these crops.

Quarterly Report

Q4 FY05

December 31, 2005

Balkh Irrigation System Rehabilitation/Construction: Survey and Design
Helping Afghan Farmers Organization (HAFO), National Engineering Services Pakistan (NESPAK)
Life of Project: October 25, 2005 – January 31, 2006
Provinces: Balkh

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#53-0002-HAFO, NESPAK	October 25, 2005	Mhd. Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$694,390	\$214,699	\$346,081	\$131,382	\$348,309

Project Description: HAFO and NESPAK have been conducting a range irrigation surveys and designing irrigation structures in Balkh province. The deliverables produced through this purchase order and subcontract will contribute to the construction components carried out by other Implementing Partners contracted under JO#53.

Accomplishments this Quarter

HAFO – Design and Survey

Purchase Order Ceiling Price: \$23,210

Period of Performance: October 25, 2005 – December 9, 2005

HAFO is surveying the irrigation system on the Imam Shabib Canal in Balkh. The partner is developing a general topographic map of the canal, collecting GPS coordinate data, and preparing designs illustrating the current state of irrigation structures new proposed structures. HAFO's surveying work was still ongoing through December 2005.

NESPAK – Design and Survey

Subcontract Ceiling Price: \$671,180

Period of Performance September 1, 2005 – January 31, 2005

NESPAK is conducting surveys and creating designs for the following three [weirs across Balkhab River](#).

- Weir across the Balkhab River and Head Regulator to serve the Imam Sahib Canal
- Weir across the Balkhab River near Village Samar Kandian
- Weir across the Balkhab River near Bangala Bridge

RAMP management is reviewing bids for construction of the Samarkandian Weir based off NESPAK's designs. RAMP expects to begin construction on this project in February 2006. NESPAK design team will visit the site from January 16 to 26 to finalize the designs jointly with Chemonics team.

Looking Ahead

Early in the next quarter, RAMP management will receive the final deliverables from HAFO. NESPAK will continue with its activities, as RAMP begins to review construction bids based off the partner's designs. RAMP anticipates that construction of the Samarkandian Weir will start in February 2006.

Project Manager Comments

Building a cross river structure with approximately 15,000 cubic meters of concrete in six months will be a challenging job for both RAMP management and the selected contractor. This type of construction will require heavy concreting equipment with numbers of concrete pumps, excavators, dozers and other equipment.